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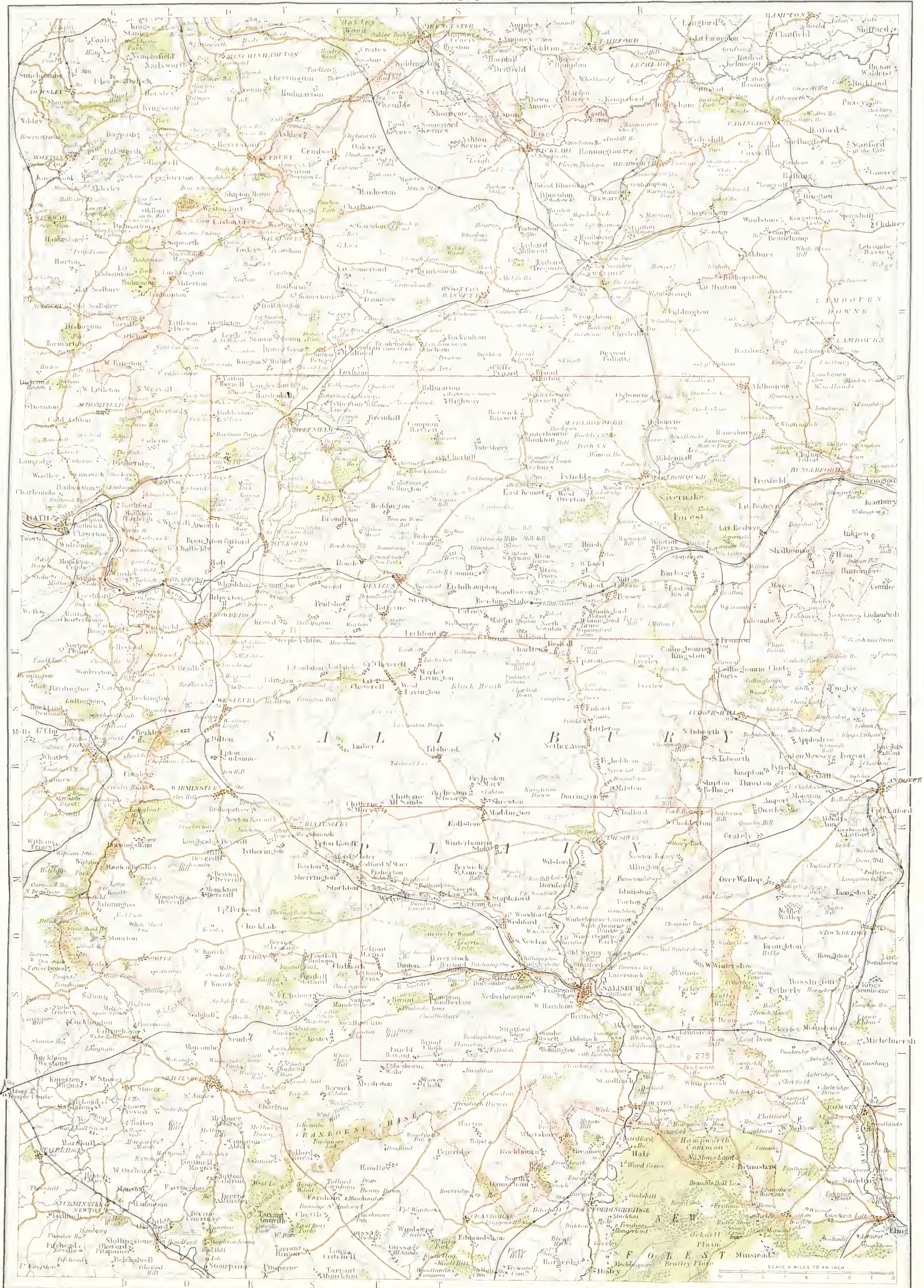
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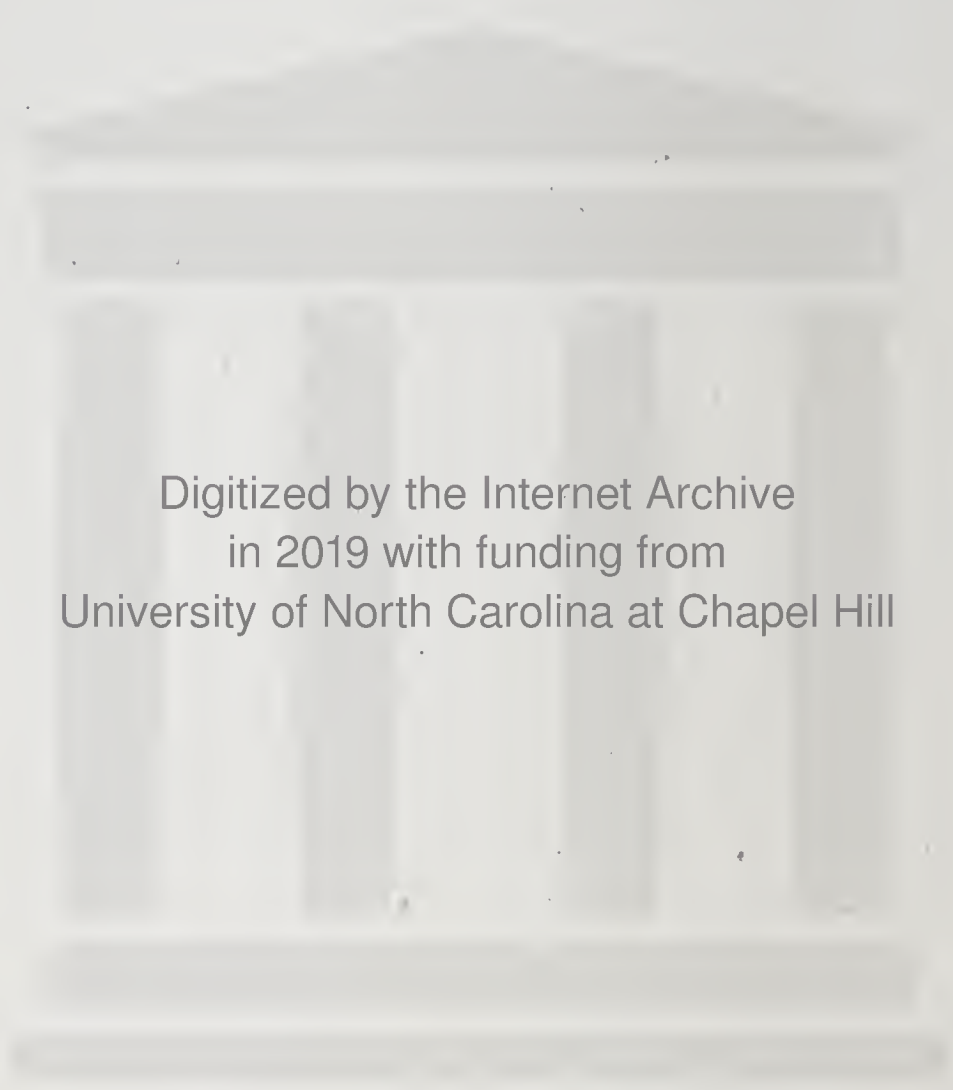
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A

HANDBOOK

FOR

WILTS AND DORSET

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- ★ This sign in the text appended to a name indicates that further information relating to the subject is to be found in the INDEX and DIRECTORY at the end of the book.
- * This sign is prefixed to places and objects of exceptional interest.

A
HANDBOOK
FOR RESIDENTS AND TRAVELLERS
IN
WILTS AND DORSET

FIFTH EDITION
WITH MAPS AND PLANS

LONDON
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET
1899

PLYMOUTH
W. BRENDON AND SON
PRINTERS

PREFACE

THE present edition of the Handbook to Wilts and Dorset has been carefully revised and brought up to date in every respect, particular attention having been paid to the vicinities of the watering-places of Weymouth and Swanage and to the remarkably interesting objects at Sherborne and Lacock, for valuable notes on which the Editor has to thank W. B. Wildman, Esq., and C. H. Talbot, Esq., respectively. Mr. Thomas Hardy has kindly obliged him with a number of names of places alluded to in the Wessex Novels. To these gentlemen, and others who have kindly given him information, the Editor tenders his best thanks. The account of Salisbury, of Stonehenge, and of the other prehistoric remains in the counties has been carefully revised, and the Editor has been much assisted in this respect by the valuable works of General Pitt-Rivers. It is hoped that nothing of importance in the two counties has been omitted, but, should any omissions be discovered, Mr. Murray will be very grateful to receive notice of the same.

B. C. A. W.

May, 1899.

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HANDBOOK

FOR

WILTS AND DORSET

INTRODUCTION

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HISTORY OF TWO COUNTIES.

THE history of Wilts and Dorset cannot be satisfactorily written by itself, but must be taken in connection with that of its nearest neighbours, and particularly with that of Somerset.

At the time of the Roman invasion, Wiltshire and Somersetshire were occupied by the immigrant Belgæ, whose territory appears to have reached from the woodlands of Berkshire to the Bristol Channel.

We have no details of the Roman conquests in the S.W. of England, but it is probable that Vespasian made himself master of this district, and carried the Imperial eagles over the line of the Wansdyke. The Roman roads that intersected this part of Britain, and the number and extent of remains of military and domestic architecture which it presents, prove a widespread and permanent occupation of the country. It has been thought that a College of Armourers was established by Hadrian at Aquæ Solis (Bath), where it is certain, from the character of the baths

and temples, &c., that have been excavated, that the Romans had a populous and opulent colony. Other Roman stations in Somerset were Ischalis (Ilchester), Uxela (Bridgwater), and Ad Axium (Uphill, near Weston-super-Mare), whilst in Dorset, Durnovaria (Dorchester), and in Wilts, Cunetio (Marlborough), and others may be mentioned. The hills show many marks of Roman military occupation, often combined with the strongholds of the earlier inhabitants.

The retirement of the Romans left the country once more in the hands of the native Britons and Romanized Britons, who in the sixth century were called to defend their country against the invading hordes of Cerdic and his sons. "Step by step, from a small settlement on the Hampshire coast, the West Saxons had won their way, fighting battle after battle against the Welsh (the native Britons), and after nearly every battle extending their borders by a new acquisition of territory."—*Freeman*. In 520 the battle of Mons Badonicus (which many place at Badbury Rings, near Wimborne), in which the Britons under Arthur were victorious, gave a temporary check to Cerdic's advance, and led to a treaty between him and Arthur, followed by a period of comparative peace. Cerdic died in 534, and Arthur in 542.—*Guest*. War broke out again, and in 552 Cynric totally defeated at Old Sarum a vast army of Britons raised against him. In 556 the desperate battle of Barbury Hill (near Swindon), fought by Cynric and Ceawlin with the Britons under Aurelius Conan, decided the fate of the country of the Wilsætas, which thenceforward formed part of the kingdom of Wessex. Twenty-one years later (577) the decisive battle of Deorham (Dyrham, in South Gloucestershire), won by Ceawlin the Bretwalda, sealed the fate of South Britain. The Britons lost their three great fortified towns of Gloucester, Cirencester, and Bath, and were thus cut off from their brethren in what we now know as Wales. Divided and weakened, all hope of making head against the enemy was gone. They retired westwards, where, separated from the kingdom of Wessex by the Somersetshire Axe and the forests of Somersetshire and Wiltshire, they long maintained their independence. "This was the last heathen conquest waged by West Saxons against the Britons. During a space of 300 years the conquest still went on. Step by step the English frontier advanced from the Axe to the Parrett, from the Parrett to the Tamar; Taunton at one stage, Exeter at another, were border fortresses against the

Welsh enemy.”—*Freeman*. Wiltshire saw the sun of its conqueror’s prosperity set when at the battle of Wanborough (near Swindon), A.D. 591, Ceawlin was defeated by the Welsh headed by his rebellious nephew Ceolric, and compelled to abdicate his throne. Two years after he died in exile. This defeat reduced Wessex to a state of great weakness, from which it revived under Cenwealh, who fought with signal success against the Britons at Bradford, A.D. 652, and at “Peonna” (identified by some with Penselwood), A.D. 658, and effected the final subjugation of Somersetshire as far as the Parrett. This victory, which made the district for ever after English ground, was followed by a lasting peace, in which the conquered sat down side by side with the conquerors. Struggles for supremacy now began between Wessex and Mercia. In 675 Wulfhere of Mercia was defeated by Æscwin of Wessex at Great Bedwyn. In 710 Ine marched upon the British king of Dyvnaint, Geraint, the most important of the Celtic princes of the day, whom St. Ealdhelm addressed as “the glorious lord of the western realm.” The result of Ine’s victory was his acquisition of the district of the Tone, whereon he erected a fortress, our modern Taunton. In 715 a still fiercer battle was fought between the same powers in the same district at Wanborough, between Ine and the forces of Mercia, without any decisive result. The power of Mercia continually increasing, Æthelbald, King of the Mercians, in 733, penetrated into the heart of Wessex, and invested Somerton, which fell under his power, the enfeebled Æthelward being unable to relieve it. About this time also the Western Welsh became troublesome. In 721 they had risen and seized on Taunton in Ine’s absence, but his queen recovered it, and rased it to the ground. After Ine’s abdication the Welsh succeeded in great measure in casting off the Saxon yoke, but were reduced to subjection once more by Cuthred in 753. An expiring effort for supremacy on the part of Mercia was effectually crushed in 823, when Egbert defeated Beornwulf, King of the Mercians, at Ellandune. Four years later Mercia submitted to the conqueror, and Ecgberht assumed the title of Bretwalda.

We now come to the epoch of Danish invasion. These inroads had commenced in the reign of Beohrtric, A.D. 789, on the coast of Dorsetshire. A successful landing took place in 833 at Charmouth. The reigns of the son and grandsons of Ecgberht were almost wholly taken up by the struggle against these piratical marauders. Æthelred himself was wounded in

a battle with the heathen northerners at Melton, and was buried as a saint and martyr at Wimborne. Aelfred was summoned from the funeral to meet the Danish army at Ellandune, which has been identified with Allington, near Amesbury, in Wiltshire, but may have been Wilton, where a long and obstinate conflict left the enemy masters of the field. In 876 Wareham was surprised by them. Aelfred purchased their retirement, together with a pledge that they would not invade Wessex again. But the next year saw them attacking Wareham, on their retreat from which they fell in with Aelfred's fleet near Swanage, and were driven on shore with great loss. The year 878 saw the most tremendous attack on Wessex that had yet been witnessed. With largely increased forces, Guthrum's army from Gloucester burst into the territory of the Wilsætas, took the royal town of Chippenham, from which, as their headquarters, they made themselves masters of the whole country. For the time all seemed lost. The marshes of the Sumersætas alone remained free from their ravages. Thither Aelfred retired, and, with the aid of the faithful Somerset thanes, raised a fortress in the Isle of Athelney, strong in its natural defences of morass and forest. At the end of eight months he issued from his fastness, gathered round him a large army, and dealt a crushing blow on the Danish power at Ethandun (either Edington near Westbury, or, perhaps more probably, Edington on the Poldens, near Wedmore). The Northmen were forced to conclude the disgraceful peace of Wedmore, and their leader, Guthrum, had to submit to the rite of baptism, which he received at Aller.

The feeble reign of Æthelred saw the wearying spectacle renewed of incessant landings and skirmishes of the Danes. In 988 Watchet was attacked; several thanes were killed, but the enemy were at last beaten off. Nine years later (997) they cruelly ravaged Somersetshire, and the next year Dorsetshire. To avenge the atrocious massacre of St. Brice's Day, Swegen invaded England in person in 1003, and after storming and plundering Exeter he marched into Wiltshire, and sacked Old Sarum and Wilton. In 1015 he made Bath his headquarters, where he received the submission of the western thanes. Cnut's first landing in England in 1015 was at Frome Mouth, the port of Wareham, whence he proceeded to harry the shires of Somerset, Dorset, and Wilts, while Æthelred lay sick at Corsham. On Æthelred's death the next year, Wessex acknow-

ledged Eadmund as king. The wisdom of their choice was soon confirmed when Eadmund's small force met and routed the army of Cnut at Penselwood. In 1051 Bristol, which was rising into importance chiefly as the seat of the Irish slave-trade, was selected by Harold and his brother Leofwine as the place of embarkation for Ireland. On their return in 1052 they landed at Porlock. The men of Somerset and Devon met them in arms, and Harold began his enterprise of deliverance by being compelled to do battle with those he came to deliver. More than 30 thanes and a large number of meaner folk were slain, and Harold returned to his ships victorious, to join his father Earl Godwin's fleet at Portland. The year succeeding the Norman Conquest, 1067, Harold's three sons, who had taken refuge with Dermot, King of Leinster, attempted to enter England by the Avon, but were driven back by the people of Bristol, who knew that domestic tranquillity was essential to their commercial prosperity. In 1086 William the Conqueror held his court at Old Sarum. During the insurrection in support of Duke Robert's claims to the throne of England, under the leadership of Odo of Bayeux, 1087, the district was much distressed by the predatory excursions made by his supporters, Bp. Geoffrey of Coutances and Robert de Mowbray, from Bristol. Their followers burnt Bath and attacked Ilchester, where they were repulsed.

In the 12th century the counties of Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset were the scene of many of the most stirring events during the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maud. The castle of Bristol was held by Robert Earl of Gloucester, its lord, A.D. 1138, for his half-sister. That city became the headquarters of her partisans, from which they ravaged the country round, which became a prey to their outrages and depredations. Bath was held alternately by the forces of the two contending parties. Maud's cause was supported by William Louvel at Castle Cary, and William Fitz-John at Harptree. Stephen having vainly attempted to take Bristol by siege, turned his attention to these two castles, both of which surrendered. This success was followed by the submission of Wareham, which had been occupied for Maud in this year. The warlike Bp. Roger of Sarum, the chief builder of castles as well as of churches of his day, was at this time, with his nephews the Bishops of Lincoln and Ely, secretly favouring the Empress's cause, and had furnished his castles of Devizes,

Sherborne, Malmesbury, and Sarum with provisions and munitions to support her claims. The three prelates being summoned to a Council at Oxford, 1139, Roger and Bp. Alexander of Lincoln were arrested by Stephen; but Bp. Nigel of Ely escaping, took refuge at Devizes, which, with the other strongholds, was soon surrendered to the King as the price of the liberation of the two captive bishops.

The atrocities and devastation committed by the lords of the castles on their unhappy neighbours were renewed by William of Mohun from his castle of Dunster. Stephen, having vainly attempted to take it by assault, surrounded it by his forces to hold him in check, and succeeded in restoring tranquillity to the harassed district.

In 1139 Baldwin de Redvers landed at Wareham, and occupied Corfe Castle, being speedily followed by Maud and the Earl of Gloucester. From Arundel the empress proceeded by way of Calne to Bristol, where she summoned the barons to her aid, and, as at Gloucester subsequently, assumed royal state and, unfortunately for her hopes of success, more than royal imperiousness. Trowbridge Castle was held by a strong garrison for her by Humphry de Bohun. The castles of Devizes and Malmesbury, with others, were continually being taken and retaken by the contending parties.

When Stephen was taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln, A.D. 1141, he was transferred for safe custody to Bristol Castle. Maud, who was now recognised as "Lady of England," celebrated the Easter festival this year in royal state at Wilton. The same year Maud, on her escape from Winchester, fled first to Ludgershall and then to Devizes, and Stephen left his prison by exchange for the Earl of Gloucester, who had been taken at Stockbridge. Bristol Castle soon became the home of Maud's young son, afterwards Henry II., who remained there for four years. Maud's sovereignty was generally acknowledged by the western counties, A.D. 1143, after the disastrous defeat of the royal forces at Wilton, while Stephen held London and the eastern and central parts. Sherborne, which was regarded as a principal key of the kingdom, was surrendered to her, and at one time she made her temporary home at Devizes. The chief strongholds in Wiltshire being held by the adherents of the contending parties, that district became a prey to rapine, bloodshed, and widespread misery, which was only terminated by the treaty of 1153.

During the 13th and 14th centuries these three counties had a breathing-time, taking little if any share in the events which were shaping our national history. At the period of Jack Cade's rebellion, 1450, the Bp. of Salisbury's tenants rose and barbarously murdered the prelate at Edington. In 1471 Margaret of Anjou and her son landed at Weymouth, and took refuge at Cerne; shortly afterwards Edward IV. passed through Malmesbury on his way to Tewkesbury. In 1497 the peace of the western counties was again disturbed by the invasion of the pretender Perkin Warbeck and his adherents. Being confronted with Henry VII. and his forces at Taunton, Perkin fled, and his forces surrendered to the royal mercy.

In the great civil war of the 17th century the western counties were, with the exception of the great towns, firm in their loyalty to Charles I., and they became the scene of active warfare. In the early part of 1643 the Cornishmen took up arms for the King, defeated the Earl of Stamford at Stratton May 16, and advanced into Somersetshire. Numerous sieges and engagements, with various issue, occurred. In May Wardour Castle was taken by Sir Edw. Hungerford, and garrisoned by Ludlow, but retaken by the royalists in March of the next year. In Sept. the Earl of Essex was unexpectedly attacked on Aldbourne Chase by Charles I. and Prince Rupert, and defeated with great loss. The same year the royalist garrison of Malmesbury surrendered to Sir W. Waller, who had recently made himself master of Chichester; but it was speedily retaken, and in July Waller was defeated at Lansdown, near Bath, and at Devizes a few days afterwards by the royalist general Lord Wilmot. Shortly after this serious loss, Prince Rupert made a fierce attack on Bristol, which surrendered to him in three days. Corfe Castle sustained a determined but unavailing siege from the Parliamentary forces. The following year the sun of the King's prosperity began to set in the west. Taunton was taken for the Parliament by Colonel Blake, but was soon afterwards invested by the royalist forces. Lyme was besieged by Prince Maurice, whose military reputation was seriously tarnished by the unsuccessful issue of the attack, and in 1645 the Parliamentary forces of the new model, animated by the sternest fanaticism, under the nominal command of Sir Thomas Fairfax, but whose real leader was Cromwell, swept through the west in an unbroken tide of conquest. Sherborne fell after an obstinate defence of 16 days. Taunton, after enduring a siege of the

most extreme severity under Goring, was relieved, July 3, by the mere tidings of their approach. Goring was defeated at Langport and Aller Moor July 10; Bridgwater fell July 23, Bath July 30. These successes cooped up the royalist forces in Devonshire and Cornwall, and precluded them from sending any assistance to Charles. They were crowned by the surrender of Bristol, after a very feeble defence by Prince Rupert, Sept. 10. Devizes fell Sept. 23, and Cromwell, having done his work, marched his forces to Donnington. Before this period armed associations of Clubmen had been formed in the western counties, attaching themselves to neither party, with the object of protecting their property and checking the depredations and violence of both armies. A large body of these was routed by Cromwell on Hambledon Hill at the outset of his western campaign, Aug. 4, 1645.

The peace generally prevailing through the Commonwealth was temporarily broken by the abortive insurrection of Penruddock at Salisbury in 1655.

These counties were the theatre of the landing of the Duke of Monmouth, his brief success, and disastrous defeat, followed by "the Bloody Assize" of Judge Jeffreys. Monmouth landed at Lyme June 11, 1685, was proclaimed king at Taunton June 20, marched onwards by Bridgwater June 21, Glastonbury June 22, Wells, Shepton Mallet, with the view of seizing Bristol. Foiled in that hope, and finding the gates of Bath shut against him, he turned towards Wiltshire, and, after a skirmish at Philip's Norton, reached Frome, his forces wearied and dispirited. Without any settled plan of a campaign, he returned to Wells, and re-entered Bridgwater July 2, to sustain a complete overthrow at Sedgemoor July 6. The infamous cruelties of Kirke and the judicial barbarities of Judge Jeffreys are inseparably connected with Taunton, Dorchester, and the other towns which had the misfortune of welcoming Monmouth.

Three years later these counties witnessed the triumphal progress of William of Orange, and the last feeble attempt of James II. to secure his throne and crown. Having landed at Torbay Nov. 5, 1688, the beginning of December saw William at Salisbury, occupying the same apartments in the episcopal palace that James had left only a few days before, on the resignation of his vain scheme of meeting the invader in the field. The first blood spilt was shed in a skirmish at Wincanton. On Oct. 6 he reached Hungerford, and held

a conference with the Royal Commissioners at Littlecote Hall.

The annals of the counties during the last 180 years have been happily uneventful.

WILTSHIRE.

i. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

The chalk downs are so characteristic of Wiltshire, that the popular notion of that county is one vast Salisbury Plain. But this, like other rapid generalizations, needs considerable modification. If a line be drawn from Bishopston in N.E. to Cley Hill in S.W. of the county, for the most part parallel to, and about 4 miles distant from, the railway from Shrivenham to Frome by Chippenham, all to S. or S.E. of that line will be chalk and the kindred formations, and all to the N.W. of it will be more or less Oxford clay and Cornbrash, three-fifths of the one to two-fifths of the other.

These are the two great natural divisions of the county, the one "chalk," the other "cheese."

The monarch of English chalk hills, Inkpen Beacon, is on the very confines of the county, 972 ft. ; and from his throne radiate two great masses of chalk, one extending northwards from Marlborough Downs to the north of Norfolk and the Wash; the other extending from Salisbury Plain southwards as far as Dorchester, and eastwards over the whole of the central part of Hampshire, with two long and distended arms, the North Downs reaching to Deal and the South Downs reaching to Beachy Head, embracing between them the vale country of the Kent and Sussex Weald.

The chalk in Wilts is divided into a N. portion (Marlborough Downs) and a S. (Salisbury Plain).

The Marlborough Downs have a bold escarpment on each side. Some of the eminences on N. are Charlborough Hill, Liddington Castle, Barbury Castle, Hackpen, Oldbury, Roundway; and overlooking the vale of Pewsey on S., St. Ann's Hill, Walker's Hill, Golden Ball Hill, Hewish Hill, and the picturesque bluff of Martensell. Salisbury Plain has no such bold outline. The most striking points in its N. and W. circuits are

Easton and Pewsey Hills, which command the vale of Pewsey; Cheverill, Edington, Bratton, and Westbury Hills, with the striking outlier of Cley Hill, Battlesbury, and Scratchbury Camps: Mere, Fonthill, Chilmark are on N. of Nadder Valley, and Chiselbury Camp and Whitesheet Hill on S. of it.

The North-western or "Cheese" Valley rises gradually towards the Cotswolds, a spur of which thrown out from the main range by way of Rodmarton into the clay vale of Minety, between Tetbury and Cirencester, is the watershed between the sources of two considerable rivers, turning the Avon to W. and the Bristol Channel, and the Isis, or rather the Thames, to E. and the German Ocean. The former, the Avon, with its affluents, drains almost the whole of the North-western Valley. Rising in a piece of ornamental water in Estcourt Park, it winds through a narrow tortuous valley to Malmesbury, where it is joined by the Newnton stream, a not inconsiderable brook, from Badminton through Easton Grey; it next passes through Dauntsey and Christian Malford, is joined above Chippenham by the Marden (a stream from E., which gathers contributions from the western slopes of the Marlborough Downs, communicates with the lake at Bowood, and flows by Stanley Abbey), and with a wide loop reaches Chippenham; then, with many a bend, passes Lacock Abbey, Melksham, Broughton Gifford (where it receives the brook of that name from the west), Whaddon (where it receives the brook of that name from the east), Bradford (receiving in the interval the Biss from Trowbridge), and so passes out of the county by Limpley Stoke and Freshford. The scenery of the higher portion of the river is of a tranquil, and, as compared with that lower down, of a tame character. The stream, strongly coloured by the alluvial deposit through which it eats its way, flows between meadow banks; the reaches now straight, now winding; the volume of water, the dipping willows, and bulky elms by the side; the banks gay with the purple loosestrife, bulrushes, and broad flags; the level meadows dotted with the large dairy cows, grazing beasts, and a few sheep; the gentle slopes which lead the eye to the distance beyond, on the right hand to the offshoots of the Cotswolds, on the left hand to the barrier of naked downs, for the most part regular in outline, but sharp and angular at Roundway, straighter along the plain, terminating at last in the unmistakable tumulus of Cley Hill; the mid landscape on either side, consisting of different farm homesteads, factory chimneys, and church

towers, reminding of the business of this life and the happiness of a better—

“In the mixture of all these appears
Variety that all the rest endears.”

As the Avon approaches Bath, it passes through deep and green valleys; further on still, at Clifton, through rock and wood. The interest gradually increases, and culminates at the Leigh Woods.

The best points from which this North-western Valley can be seen are Liddington Castle, the descent of the road near Chiseldon, Barbury Castle, the road above Cherhill, or Roundway. Spye Park and Monkton Farleigh look face to face, the one W., the other E.; they are two of the finest positions in North Wiltshire, and command the most beautiful part of this valley from Lacock to Bradford.

There are two other valleys in Wilts, both in shape not unlike those ancient stone celts which are found on these downs and in the gravel beds of the rivers; their broad ends are towards the W. The vale of Pewsey extends across the centre of the county nearly to its eastern limit at Hungerford, and divides the chalk, while the Nadder Valley, in the extreme S., reaches from Donhead to Salisbury.

The chalk streams themselves do not follow the course of these valleys; the streams run from N. to S., the valleys from E. to W. This seemingly perverse habit of chalk streams flowing in gorges or transverse fissures obtains here, as further eastward, where the Chiltern Hills are pierced by the Thames; the North Downs by the rivers Wey, Mole, Darent, Medway, and Stour; while the South Downs are broken through by the Test, the Itchen, the Arun, the Adur, the Ouse and the Cuckmere.

Thus in Wiltshire the central plateau of chalk called Salisbury Plain is pierced by the Bourne Brook, by the Southern or Hampshire Avon, by the Wylye, and by the Nadder—all of which meet in the neighbourhood of Salisbury (profanely called “the Sink of the Plain”), and there, sometimes divided into two or more channels, sometimes united,

“Like friends once parted,
Grown single-hearted,
Ply their watery tasks,”

in a tolerably straight line southward through a single valley, under the name of the Avon, into the sea at Christchurch.

We have already seen how a low watershed in the N. turns the streams E. and W.

But perhaps the most interesting hydrographical point in the county is near its centre, where the Wansdyke so boldly crosses St. Ann's Hill. From this spot the waters reach three different seas. Three miles N., Wellhead, near Silbury, may be considered the permanent (the brook which springs from Cleveancy fields is intermittent) and therefore the real source of the Kennet, which joins the Thames, and at last reaches the German Ocean. At Bishop's Cannings, 2 miles S., is the source of the Hampshire Avon, which empties into the English Channel. Blackland Brook rises 4 miles W. at Calston, and flows through the Somersetshire Avon to the Atlantic. The sources of these three streams are the three points of a nearly equilateral triangle, of which each side is about 5 miles long.

John Aubrey, the Wiltshire naturalist and antiquary, whose name must ever be held in the kindly remembrance of Wiltshire men for using his eyes and making his memoranda, where others were blind or idle, noted these streams thus taking their courses "three several waies."

The road which runs from East Knoyle to Shaftesbury, in the extreme S.W. of the county, marks another watershed, dividing the sources of the Nadder and the Stour, though these streams ultimately unite, after a severance throughout almost the whole of their course, just above their outfall into the English Channel at Christchurch.

The natural and moral influences of North and South Wiltshire, the "cheese" and the "chalk," leading divisions of the county, cannot be better summed up than in Aubrey's words: "According to the severall sorts of earth in England (and so all the world over), the *indigenæ* are respectively witty or dull, good or bad. In North Wiltshire (a dirty clayey country) the *indigenæ*, or aborigines, speake drawlinge; they are phlegmatique, skins pale and livid, slow and dull, heavy of spirit; hereabout is but little tillage or hard labour; they only milk the cowes and make cheese; they feed chiefly on milke meates, which cools their braines too much, and hurts their inventions. These circumstances make them melancholy, contemplative, and malicious; by consequence whereof come more law suites out of North Wilts, at least double to the southern parts. And by the same reason they are generally more apt to be fanatiques; their persons are generally plump and feggy; gallipot eies, and

some black ; but they are generally handsome enough.” “Contrariwise on the downes, etc., the south part, where ’tis all upon tillage, and where the shepherds labour hard ; their flesh is hard, their bodies strong. Being weary after hard labour, they have not leisure to read on or contemplate of religion, but goe to bed to their rest to rise betime the next morning to their labour.”

ii. GEOLOGY.

The geology of Wiltshire is simple. The range of the rocks extends to none older than the upper beds of the lias, nor to any newer than the white chalk, except it be those small but important portions of tertiary sands and gravels the highest strata of which are some Bagshot beds near Bramshaw, and the largest portion of which overlies the chalk in Savernake forest, where there are Reading beds and a little London clay. Moreover, there has been very little disturbance in the strata, which, with the exception of the Reading beds on the chalk, and the lower greensand and gault on older rocks near Tisbury and near Swindon and elsewhere, lie one over the other in parallel beds, or, as it is termed, “conformably.” But within this comparatively limited range of rocks lie the oolites and the greensand, which are so fully displayed and easily studied in the railway cuttings and quarries.

The North-western Valley belongs to the oolitic system, the several beds of which show themselves throughout its length from Highworth in the E. to Bradford in the W.

The broad band of the lead-coloured Oxford clay, sometimes less than four, sometimes eight miles wide, extends over the Avon Valley from Westbury northwards to Minety, and thence eastward over the valley of the infant Thames by Cricklade and Castle Eaton. The railway for the most part runs along it from Wootton Bassett to Chippenham, and thence to Westbury, and on the Gloucester line from Purton to beyond Minety. Much trouble it gave the contractors by the slips which took place in the cuttings. It contains in great numbers the ammonite and belemnite, the straight dart-like guard of which last animal, vulgarly called the “thunderbolt,” continually occurs in the gravel drift which comes from this formation. Below it lies Kellaways Rock, so called from its being well developed at Kellaways, N. of Chippenham. Above it on E. are

beds of a ragged and coralline limestone, called coral rag, which lie between the upper and lower calcareous grit. These formations compose a country of moderate elevation, stretching away E. of the Oxford clay basin, from Westbury, through Steeple Ashton, Keevil, Sandridge, Calne, Lyneham, Lydiard-Millicent, the Blunsdens, and Highworth. This range of coralline oolite is again bounded on E. and overland by Kimmeridge clay, of which we shall hear again in Dorsetshire. As the coral rag country was comparatively elevated, so the Kimmeridge clay runs parallel to it, in a nearly continuous depression between it and the escarpment of the chalk, from Westbury to Rowde, and from Calne to Shrivenham Station. Between Rowde and Calne it is broken by the overlap of the lower greensand. Swindon Junction lies in the midst of it, and the railway passes through it from Shrivenham to Wootton Bassett. This clay is overlaid by strata of sand and limestone, which, from their large development further S., are called Portland oolite; these are found at three spots in the county—Old Swindon, Potterne, and the Nadder Valley—where they are quarried at Fonthill Gifford, Tisbury, and Chilmark. Passing to deeper strata, a bit of Purbeck limestone, the highest bed of the oolitic series, is quarried at Old Swindon. But the finest quarries are those of the great oolite which yield those magnificent blocks of cream-coloured freestone which are sent from Box and Corsham all over England. These, several feet in thickness, and without a joint, are the true oolite, being generally composed of small rounded grains, resembling the roe of a fish. The cornbrash and forest marble are full of fossil shells, much broken; near Bradford thick beds of clay occur between the two great oolitic limestone beds, and in these are found the crinoids, or lily-like animals now in stone; the rayed body, or lily itself, is mounted on the long tender stalk, which is still attached to the rock, where the creatures were undisturbed when potted in clay for our exhumation and admiration. The slaty or flaggy beds of the forest marble are much quarried for roofing tiles, and their surfaces frequently show the mark produced by the ripple of the waves upon them as they were being deposited. Drifted shells, the casts of sea-worms, the tracks of crabs, the bones, teeth, palates, and scales of fishes and saurians, are also found in the forest marble, as may be well seen in the quarries about Wormwood, between Box and Atworth.

Rather more than half the surface of the county consists

of chalk, the upper beds being soft and with flints, the lower harder and without flints. The lower beds of chalk contain some clay, and often form a sort of lower terrace for that upper and thicker pure calcareous mass, which consists almost wholly of carbonate of lime. Among the fossils of the chalk are sponges, corallines, sea-urchins, bivalve and other shells; and many forms of oyster, fishes' teeth, and palates are embedded in it, but no bones of land animals, or land or river shells.

The upper greensand, gault, and lower greensand are disposed below the chalk in bands more or less parallel round the northern and western borders of the Marlborough Downs and Salisbury Plain, and on the N. and S. margins of the Nadder Valley. But the upper greensand is more than a mere margin to the chalk. The whole of the Pewsey Valley (a remarkable section is in the railway cutting E. of Devizes), a considerable portion of that of Nadder, as well as the small but broad indentation which runs up from the Wylde Valley by Warminster to Maiden Bradley and Stourton, are scooped out of the upper greensand; the latter makes Cley Hill a peninsula, and at Stourhead reaches an elevation of more than 800 feet; on the edge of the escarpment King Alfred's Tower is built.

The lower greensand in Wiltshire contains so large a proportion of iron as to render many of its beds capable of smelting; thus traces of old furnaces have been found at Seend, Bromham, and Sandy Lane, and these could be worked successfully as long as the neighbouring forests of Melksham and Pewsham supplied the necessary fuel. That being exhausted, the ore, however rich, became valueless till the railway afforded means of conveyance either of coal to the iron or iron to the coal. Accordingly smelting furnaces have been erected at Seend, where John Aubrey found iron more than 200 years ago. "Underneath this sand" he says, speaking of Seend, "I discovered the richest iron ore that I ever saw or heard of. Come there on a certain occasion, at the Revell 1666, it rained at 12 or 1 of the clock very impetuously, so that it had washed away the sand from the ore, and walking out to see the country about 3 p.m.; the sun, shining bright, reflected itself from the ore to my eyes. The forest of Melksham did extend itself to the foot of this hill. It was full of goodly oaks, and so near together, that they say a squirrel might have leaped from tree to tree. It was disafforested about 1635. . . . Now there is scarce an oak left in the whole parish, and oaks are very rare

all hereabout, so that this rich mine cannot be melted and turned to profit." Furnaces have also been erected close to the Westbury Station, where the ore is found in the coral rag, which, through a fault there, had been brought into contact with the greensand.

In the neighbourhood of Alderbury, Platford, and Damerham are tertiary remains, a spot of Bagshot sand at Bramshaw being the highest and most eastern stratum in the county.

Flints are, as usual, found everywhere on the upper white chalk. On many parts of the summit levels of the great chalk platform, particularly on the N., is plastic clay, notably in Savernake forest and at Great and Little Bedwyn. Overlying this are insular beds, sometimes of London clay and sometimes of Lower Bagshot sands (on elevated points of which last are placed Lord Ailesbury's obelisk and Chisbury Camp). All these are the remains of that wonderful aqueous action which has uncovered all else in the whole of this district.

But the most obvious results of this denudation, in some of the hollows in the downs about Marlborough and Kennet particularly, are those well-known and singular masses of hard white siliceous grit, known provincially as Sarsen stones, Grey Wethers, or Druid sandstone, from their having been employed in the construction of the so-called Druidical temples at Avebury wholly, and Stonehenge for the most part. These were probably chiefly derived from the denuded Bagshot beds, and were left stranded in the hollows when the looser materials of those beds were swept onward. They are almost peculiar to the Wiltshire downs, and their appearance is most striking. One trail of them may be seen about four miles from Marlborough on the Bath road; nowhere are they more thick than in the hollow which leads up to and beyond the Devil's Den, but perhaps they show to most advantage mixed with trees in Lockeridge Dene. They are now largely used for paving and other such purposes, the means of accurately splitting them by breaking the outer skin being a recent discovery; the old mode was by fire and water.

In the immediate beds of the streams are drift or alluvial deposits of gravel, flint and chalk rubble in the chalk streams, and of these materials, together with oolitic gravel, in the Lower Avon. In this last mammalian drift, so called, are the remains of red-deer, ox, horse, elephant, hippopotamus, and rhinoceros, together with land and fresh-water shells. These

remains are characteristic of the gravel of the valleys, as distinguished from the drift of the hills. The railway W. of Melksham runs through this gravel for two miles, and has conveyed it thence for the purposes of ballasting the line down to Weymouth. The geological collections of Mr. Cunningham at Devizes, a local geologist with more than a local reputation; of the Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society, also at Devizes; and of the Blackmore Museum at Salisbury, are of the greatest interest. A large, varied, and well-selected series of specimens from different countries belonging to the earliest period of human occupation, or the "Stone Age" of antiquaries, renders the Blackmore Museum almost unrivalled in this country.

iii. DESCRIPTION; COMMUNICATIONS; INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Wiltshire, in the Saxon chronicles *Wiltunscir*, in Domesday *Wiltescire*, derives its name through the town of *Wilton*, from the *Wil-saetas* (*sætan* = settlers or inhabitants), the West Saxon tribe who made it their home. Its shape is that of a parallelogram, with its longest diameter from N. to S. and its northern corners rounded off. It is an inland county, without any sea-coast, bounded on N.W. by Gloucestershire; N.E., Berkshire; E., Hampshire; S., Hampshire and Dorsetshire; W., Somersetshire. Its greatest length is 54 miles, from N. to S.; its greatest breadth 37 miles, from E. to W. It includes an area of 866,962 acres, or about 1350 square miles. Its population amounted in 1871 to 257,177; in 1881 to 258,965; and in 1891 to 264,997 persons.

Wiltshire is now almost entirely an agricultural county—dairy farming in N., corn and sheep in S. The N.W. portion was formerly one of the chief seats of the clothing trade; but this has migrated in great part to the northern towns of England. The manufacture is still carried on with some activity in the towns on the river Avon and its affluents, which supply the water-power, as at Trowbridge, the chief seat of the broadcloth manufacturers, Bradford, Westbury, and Melksham. At Wilton are carpet works. Swindon is a vast railway workshop and depôt. There is a good deal of malting and brewing carried on in several of the large towns. The curing of bacon is carried on largely, principally at Calne. Kennet ale is famous. Iron ore is dug in some places, and there

are works for smelting at Westbury, and were formerly at Seend. Altogether the trade of Wilts is considerable, though it cannot compete with the great manufacturing districts.

The county is well supplied with railway communication. The G.W. Rly. enters the county near Swindon, and runs S.W. by Chippenham and Corsham to Bath. A branch runs from Chippenham by Melksham, Trowbridge, Westbury, and Frome to Weymouth, meeting the line from Hungerford by Pewsey and Devizes at Holt, near Melksham, and at Westbury that by Heytesbury and Warminster from Salisbury. The G.W. throws off branches from Swindon by Minety to Cheltenham, from Savernake to Marlborough, by Stratton and Stannington to Highworth, and from Chippenham to Calne. The Midland and S.W. Junction Rly. runs from Andover through Marlborough and Swindon to Cirencester and Cheltenham. Salisbury is a railway centre communicating, besides the Westbury line already mentioned, with London direct by the S.W. Rly. by Andover, and with Exeter by Yeovil; with Southampton and Portsmouth by Romsey and Bishopstoke; and directly with Weymouth, Poole, and the whole of the S. by Fordingbridge.

In the northern part of the county are three great lines of canal: the Thames and Severn, the Wilts and Berks, and the Kennet and Avon. The two former are joined by the North Wilts Canal between Cricklade and Swindon, and the two latter unite S. of Melksham. South Wilts is almost entirely destitute of canals.

iv. ANTIQUITIES : BRITISH ; ROMAN.

No county in England can exhibit more numerous and more interesting remains of its aboriginal inhabitants than Wiltshire. The early population dwelt chiefly upon the hills, which everywhere show evident marks of having been densely peopled and subjected to cultivation. The valleys, obstructed with dense forests and undrained marshes, were as little suited for tillage as for defence, and would be less salubrious than the uplands. Over the downs are scattered in profusion British camps and earthworks, boundary ditches and trackways, and foundations of the groups of huts which formed the primæval villages. These elevations are also everywhere tumid with sepulchral barrows and mounds of varied shapes and dimensions, attesting

the long occupation of these grassy hills by the Celtic tribes who are supposed to have first colonised Britain. Traces of their agricultural activity are to be noticed in the "lynchets," or terraces, with which the sloping sides of the downs are scored, evidencing the action of the plough.

The primæval antiquities of Wiltshire and the adjacent counties may be briefly enumerated under the following heads:—

Stone Circles.—Avebury, with its avenues (the chief monolithic example in England); Stonehenge.

Circles, formed by a bank and ditch, the ditch being inside the rampart.

Cromlechs, e.g. "the Devil's Den," and Temple Bottom, near Marlborough (now destroyed); Littleton Drew, near Castle Combe; the sepulchral structures at Lanhill, Luckington, and Shurdington.

"We habitually call the megalithic monuments Druidical, but it is hardly necessary to mention that there is really no sufficient reason for connecting them with Druidical worship," though "both Avebury and Stonehenge were, I believe, used as temples."—*Sir John Lubbock*.

British (?) Dykes.—The most remarkable are the Wansdyke and Bokerley Dyke (see p. 168 for account of these). The *Wansdyke* enters Wilts at Great Bedwyn, goes through Saver-nake, and over Marlborough Downs (on St. Ann's Hill it is most perfect) by Calstone, Heddington, Spye Park, Neston Park; crosses the Avon Valley at Bathford; makes a circuit on the high ground to S. of Bath over Claverton Down to Prior Park and Englishcombe, where it is very conspicuous in the fields W. of the church. It continues, marked by deep lanes, to Stantonbury, of which it formed the N. boundary, and thence by Publow and Bulleton to Maes Knoll, crosses Highbridge Common, runs along Deep Combe Lane and across the meadows to Wonesditch Lane, crosses the Ashton road at Raymond's Cross, enters Portbury Hundred, traverses Clapton Hill, and ends at Portishead.

British Roads, particularly the Ridgeway, which runs N.E. from Avebury by the camps of Barbury and Liddington. They generally pursue a course along the high land, which the Romans avoided as much as possible.

British Villages, the sites of which are still to be traced on the slopes of Marlborough Downs and Salisbury Plain.

The British pit dwellings, a mile N.W. of Salisbury, on the Devizes road may be mentioned.

Banks and Ditches, which marked out the lines of communication from village to village.

Barrows, studding all the chalk hills and valleys, which have been classed in four divisions—the Long-barrow, probably the earliest form of sepulchral mound in Britain, Bowl-barrow, Bell-barrow, and Druid-barrow; the first three so named from their shape, the fourth, the name being purely fanciful, consisting of one or more tumuli, enclosed within a circular ditch, sometimes 100 ft. in diameter. The Wiltshire barrows, particularly those which surround the temples of Avebury and Stonehenge, rank amongst the most ancient in England, and doubtless date from a time preceding the arrival of the Romans. They are also very remarkable for the variety and symmetry of their forms. Nearly all the long barrows stand E. and W., the wider end being towards the E. Out of eleven opened by Mr. Cunnington, nine had skeletons reposing at the E. end. In chalk districts, where stone was scarce, the bones usually rest on the natural surface of the soil after the removal of the turf; but where stone is plentiful, the body was deposited in a chamber at the E. end formed of large slabs, as at Littleton Drew and West Kennet. In a few instances a rough pavement of flint nodules was found under the bodies. At Winterborne Stoke round hollows were found sunk in the chalk, near the bones, perhaps as receptacles for food and drink. Many of these sepulchral mounds were opened by Sir R. C. Hoare, who, in his “History of Ancient Wiltshire,” has given us an interesting account of their contents: how in one he found the skeleton of the child clasped in the mother’s arms; in another the hunter with his faithful dog; in a third the maiden still encircled by her little beads and trinkets; in a fourth the warrior in the midst of his weapons, and with the drinking-cup by his side. Three modes of interment appear to have been pursued. In the first the skeleton reposes on the right side with its head to the W. or N.W., and its legs drawn up; in the second it is extended at full length; in the third the body has been burnt, and the ashes deposited either in a cyst cut in the chalky ground, or within a funereal urn. With these relics of mortality are found the arms and the personal ornaments of the dead—arrow-heads of flint, rude axes of stone, beads of glass, jet,

or amber, and, occasionally, articles of brass, gold, or iron. These have been more usually found in the bowl or bell-shaped barrows; the interments in the long barrows were more rude. Sir R. C. Hoare's collections are now to be seen in the museum at Devizes.

Entrenchments, viz.: (1) rectangular enclosures, probably the rude defences of villages; (2) camps on elevated points, varying in size and construction, and of which Old Sarum, Battlesbury, and Scratchbury, near Warminster, are remarkable specimens.

Other camps that deserve mention are—Barbury and Badbury, near Swindon, Bratton Castle, Figbury (or Chlorus' Camp), Ogbury, Sidbury, Casterley Camp, and Yarnbury.

Roman Roads—(1) From Bath (Aquæ Solis) through Verlucio to Marlborough (Cunetio). Thence led (2) the Ermine Way to Cirencester, and (3) another to Winchester (Venta Belgarum). (4) From Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum) N.W. to Ad Axium, near Weston-super-Mare, in Somerset, a road continued in the opposite direction. (5) From Sorbiodunum to Winchester. (6) From Sorbiodunum to Silchester (Calleva Atrebatum), continued in the opposite direction as (7) the Ackling Ditch to Badbury Rings.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—Of the castles of Wiltshire, so famous in the wars of the 12th and 13th centuries, and invested once more with a temporary interest during the Parliamentary wars, little remains beyond their foundations and earthworks. The mounds of Old Sarum, Devizes, and Marlborough are conspicuous for their bulk, and of the two former some small fragments of building in walls and vaults still exist. Castle Combe is reduced to a heap of rubbish. Trowbridge has completely passed away. Of Ludgershall only a small fragment survives.

The only castle of which there are any considerable remains is that of Wardour, and it is of considerable architectural interest. Farleigh Castle, being just over the border, is claimed by the county of Somerset.

II. *Domestic*.—Of domestic architecture few, if any, counties

possess so many and such admirable specimens. Besides the more remarkable examples, of the chief of which a list is given below, a vast number of old manor-houses are scattered over the county, usually degraded into farmhouses, and more or less dilapidated, and, we regret to add, yearly diminishing before the march of modern improvement. In North Wilts nearly every parish possesses one or more such specimens, with a long gabled front, two-storied porch, stone-mullioned and labelled windows, stone-tiled roofs, and the remains of handsome oak panelling within.

The following list gives the more important domestic remains :—

Fourteenth Century.—Stanton St. Quentin; Place House, Tisbury; Woodlands, Mere; Barton Farm, Bradford; Wardour Castle.

Fifteenth Century.—Great Chaldfield; Norrington; Potterne; Salisbury, houses in the Close and city; South Wraxall (remodelled in the reigns of Henry VIII., Elizabeth, and James).

Sixteenth Century and later.—Bradford, Duke's House; Charlton; Corsham; Littlecot; Longleat; Longford; Wilton.

The magnificent modern mansions of Bowood, Wilton House, Grittleton, Stourhead, Trafalgar, and Wardour are celebrated as well for their architecture as for the works of art some of them contain.

III. The *monastic* foundations of Wiltshire have been almost entirely swept away. Malmesbury preserves a large fragment of its magnificent church, and some small portions of the conventual buildings. Lacock retains its conventual buildings, including refectory, kitchen, dormitory, chapter-house of the original foundation, among modern alterations, and the beautiful cloisters of the 15th century. Bradenstoke has some excellent remains of domestic buildings of the 14th century. The traces of Monkton Farleigh are very insignificant. The Cistercians had foundations at Stanley and Kingswood, and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem estates at Anstey, Lockeridge, Swallowcliffe, and Temple Rockley.

CHURCHES.

This county presents at least two different kinds of churches, varying according to the locality and the nature of the material. In the northern part, and some parts of the south-western district, good stone abounds, and consequently the churches are large and fine, with well-finished exteriors. In the southern and eastern parts, where there is a chalk soil, flints are the common material, and the churches are smaller and more homely in character. Wooden belfries or diminutive steeples often occur; but the latter are sometimes unusually situated. Many are interesting from presenting early architectural features, both Norman and Early English. In some parts we find both chalk and stone combined, and a very mixed character in the churches.

In the north and western districts are several large churches, approaching in their general features those of Gloucestershire and Somersetshire; and even in smaller examples the work is often good and well finished. Among these are several which have the exterior chiefly of Perpendicular character, and some lofty and rich towers, as Cricklade St. Mary, Calne, and Devizes St. Mary.

Cruciform churches are not very uncommon in this county, some on a rather large scale, as Cricklade St. Sampson, Bishop's Cannings, Devizes St. John, Purton, Downton, Heytesbury, Great Bedwin.

Two churches in the county, Purton and Wanborough, present the unusual feature of two steeples, one in the centre, the other at the W. end. An elegant pyramidal bell-turret is not uncommon in the north-western district, as at Acton Turvill, Sutton Benger, Corsley, Biddestone, and Great Chaldfield.

Though in the district where good stone is used the prevailing external features may be Perpendicular, there is abundance of work in the earlier styles of the best character.

There are some steeples of the "pack-saddle" form, as at North and South Wraxall and Winsley. Stone spires are not very uncommon, but, excepting the magnificent one at Salisbury, not remarkable for height or beauty. Examples are at

Chilmark, Salisbury St. Martin, Lacock, Trowbridge, Chippenham, Box, Purton, Bishop's Cannings, etc.

The finest Norman work is at the Abbey Church, Malmesbury, but a good deal of this church is of transition to the next style. There is also good Norman work at Devizes St. John, Devizes St. Mary, Corsham, and Preshute; and Transitional in Ogbourne and the nave of Great Bedwin. At Britford and North Barcombe is some work of Saxon character.

Salisbury Cathedral is of course unrivalled as an Early English example on a very large scale. Bishop's Cannings and Potterne are fine churches of this style, almost unmixed; and very good work may be seen also at Purton, Downton, Amesbury, Cricklade St. Sampson, Collingbourne Kingston, Salisbury St. Martin, and the chancel of Great Bedwin.

There is a very fine Decorated work in Cricklade St. Sampson, where the windows have beautiful tracery, and the tower and transepts of Lacock, but there is probably less of this than of the other styles in this county.

Of Perpendicular work are the nave and tower of Devizes St. Mary, the nave and chantry of Lacock, Cricklade St. Sampson, Salisbury St. Thomas, the tower of Marlborough St. Peter, and the principal part of those of Bradford, Trowbridge, and Mere. In the northern district a rich canopied niche crowning the apex of a gable is not uncommon, as at St. John's, Devizes, and St. Mary's, Lacock.

Stone groining is not uncommon in this county, of Norman date in the chancels of St. John and St. Mary, Devizes; Early English at Bishop's Cannings, Urchfont, and Marlborough St. Peter. At Urchfont is also a porch entirely of stone. There are groined W. porches at Westbury and Lacock. There are several Norman fonts. Sedilia are not very frequent, but piscinæ of various kinds and aumbries are common.

Churchyard crosses are not unfrequent, and at Salisbury, Castle Combe, and Malmesbury are very good examples of market crosses.

vi. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Swindon.—G.W. Rly. Works; Camps of Barbury and Liddington Castle; Wanborough Church.

Chippenham.—Bradenstoke Priory; Draycot Cerne; Bowood (pictures); Malmesbury Abbey; Charlton Park (pictures); Castle Combe; Grittleton House (pictures).

Calne.—Bowood; Lansdown Column; Maud Heath's Column; Bremhill; Lacock Abbey and Church.

Melksham.—Lacock Abbey; Spye Park; Bromham; Great Chaldfield; South Wraxhall.

Corsham.—Corsham Court.

Cricklade.—Down Ampney.

Marlborough.—Churches, College, Castle Hill; Savernake; Tottenham House; Littlecote; Avebury; Silbury Hill; Devil's Den; Wansdyke.

Devizes.—Churches, Castle Hill, Museum; Roundway Down; Bishop's Cannings; Potterne; Urchfont.

Bradford.—Church, Old Church; Duke's House; Bridge; Barton Farm; Monkton Farleigh; South Wraxall; Great Chaldfield; Westwood; Farleigh Castle; Hinton Charterhouse; Norton St. Philip's.

Trowbridge.—Church; Steeple Ashton Church; Farleigh Castle.

Salisbury.—Cathedral; Close; Bishop's Palace; Churches; Cross; Old Houses; Museum; St. Nicholas' Hospital; Old Sarum; Amesbury; Stonehenge; Wilton House (pictures) and Church; Bemerton; Longford Castle (pictures); Wardour Castle (pictures, ruins); Clarendon; Trafalgar House; Bishopston Church; Groveley Works; Yarnbury; Compton House.

Tisbury.—Wardour Castle; Hindon; Fonthill.

Heytesbury.—House (pictures); Church; Cotley Hill; Knook Castle; Scratchbury; Battlebury; Oldbury; Boyton Church.

Warminster.—Cley Hill; Longleat (pictures); Horningsham; Maiden Bradley.

Westbury.—Church; Iron Foundries; Bratton Castle; Edington Church; Heywood House.

DORSETSHIRE.

i. PHYSICAL FEATURES.

Dorsetshire has been justly described as “perhaps in a small compass the most representative of southern English counties.” Its classical division is into Felix, Petræa, and Deserta—the happy vales, the stony heights, and the deserted heaths. The only doubt is as to the classification of the chalk; but if we may place it under the second head, we have a general description of the physical features of the county; and the three Latin epithets may be geologically translated into the clays, the chalks, and the sands. Between Lyme and Sherborne, scenery of this kind popularly associated with Devonshire occurs, such as Devonshire itself can only provide on a larger scale; while the chalk downs of the E. are equally characteristic, and the coast-line presents at Lyme, Portland, and Purbeck curiously independent beauties.

Felix.—The county has been blessed, perhaps, above measure. It boasts of the title of “the garden of England.” It has been described, “both for rider and for abider, one of the pleasantest counties in England”; and a royal critic, who had seen many lands, and never said a foolish thing, declared, on returning from Plymouth, “that he had never seen a finer country in England or out of it.” Charles II. was returning from Plymouth, that is, took a western view of the county; and it is in the west that the eulogy is most deserved. There are the rich genial marlstone soils in the neighbourhood of Bridport and Beaminster, drained by the Brit, in which no system of cropping is observed, because they can bear anything and grow anything. Nor need the Marshwood Vale, drained by the Char, be excepted, though its clay be cold and distinguished above all others in the county in stiffness, for it is thence that the best Dorset butter is sent to London. The wheat is excellent, and there is not a stone in the whole vale. “They are obliged to send for stones to Bothenhampton to mend their roads.” The oak timber in it is of a large growth and excellent quality. There, too, is the vale of the Dorset feeders of the Yeo about

Halstock, Chetnole, and Yetminster, of the Yeo itself at Sherborne. There, too, is the vale of Blackmoor, or the country between the hills about Lillington, the Caundles, and Stalbridge on the N. and W., and the Dorset chalk heights on the S. and E., watered by the W. and E. branches of the many-branched Lidden, with the Cale between them, a fine rich grazing and dairy district, which will rear oxen as bulky as those in the rich sandstone vales and alluvial marshes of Somerset, and grow such oaks as may be seen at Hermitage, Middle Marsh, Glanville's Wootton, Buckland, Mappowder, and Melcombe Park, and hardly elsewhere in the W., but in its centre more of a hunting than of a residential character. No towns, hardly any villages, are in it. Buckhorn Weston in N., Lidlinch at the bend of the valley, Holwell, Holnest, Leigh, Chetnole, in S. portion of it, complete the catalogue.

At Parnham, near Beaminster, at Dewlish, Bingham's Melcombe, and round Bridport, very fine elm timber is grown, which implies a lighter soil than the oak. At West Woodyates is a magnificent walnut-tree, planted more than a century ago by the then Lord Londonderry, which the tenant used to call his hundred-pound tree, on account of its annual yield of walnuts.

The river system corresponds with its vales: that of Blackmoor watered by the Lidden and Cale; that of the Yeo, which flows N. into the Parrett and the Bristol Channel; of the Axe, which bounds the county on W. for some miles; of the Char, which rises near Pillesdon Pen and empties at Charmouth; of the Brit, which rises on the S. chalk slopes near Beaminster and flows into Bridport harbour; of the Bredy, which has a similar origin, and joins the sea at the W. end of the Chesil Bank. "Felix" is perhaps one-fourth of the county.

Petræa.—The chalk enters the county between Cranborne Chase and Shaftesbury in N.E., extends to Beaminster in the S.W., thence to Abbotsbury in S., and touches the sea at Swyre Head, near Lulworth and Ballard Down (separating Swanage and Studland Bays), two noteworthy points, 18 miles apart, on either side of the Isle of Purbeck. The central mass, about one-third of the county, is divisible, like that in Wilts, into N. and S. downs, the river Stour being the boundary, and Blandford the capital of the N., Dorchester of the S. portion. The chief eminences on the N. escarpment are Hod Hill,

Hambledon Hill, Okeford Hill, Bell Hill, Bulbarrow (903 ft.), White Hill, Great and Little Ball, Revels, Dogberry, High Stoy (860 ft.), Evershot, Rampisham Down, Horn Hill. (This, with the exception of some outlying masses, indicating its former more extensive prevalence, is the W. extremity of the chalk.) Along the S. escarpment are Chilfrome Down, Eggardon, Little Bredy Down, Black Down (777 ft.), Whaddon Down, Bincombe Down, Chalbury, Chaldon Down. The highest hills in the Purbeck portion are Swyre Hill (631 ft.), Nine Barrow Down. Corfe Castle is, from its isolation, the most striking. Lewesdon Hill (894 ft.) and Pillesdon Pen (907 ft.), W. of Beaminster, are the highest points in the county. The chalk hills, though to some extent similar in feature to those of Wiltshire, have not the same broad flat downs, but consist of comparatively narrow ridges, from the tops of which the sea can be seen to the S., and the hills of North Dorset and Somerset to the N. They are crowned, as elsewhere, with camps and earthworks, such as Maiden Castle and Poundbury, near Dorchester; Weatherbury Castle, near Milborne St. Andrew's; Hambledon and Hod Hills, not far from Blandford; Badbury Rings, near Sturminster Marshall; Rawlsbury, near Bulbarrow; and others.

If to the chalk you add the sea-coast S. of a line drawn from Bridport in W. to Ballard Down in E. (though you must except and assign to "Deserta" the belt of Hastings sand between Worbarrow and Swanage Bays), you have "Petræa," or half of the county.

As usual, the streams intersect the chalk ridges. The Stour is the chief river of the chalk, and of the county. Rising on the borders of Wilts, Somerset, and Dorset, at Stourhead, it receives the two branches of the Lidden and the Cale, and enters the chalk by a transverse fissure between Okeford Hill and Hod Hill at Stourpayne, passes directly through the chalk by Blandford to Wimborne, where it is joined by the Allen, which also has made its way through the chalk from Cranborne Chase and Pentridge Hill in N. by St. Giles and the Crichels. Almost parallel with the Stour, 10 miles W., is the Trent or Piddle, rising in Alton, on the S. side of the N. escarpment by Little and Great Ball Hill, giving its name to Puddle-trenthide, -hinton, and -town, Tol- and Aff-puddle, in its course. Again, further W. the Frome, similarly rising in S. side of N. escarpment between Corscombe and Evershot, receives tributaries from Rampisham Down on W.; and the Cerne from Revels

Hill on E., passing Dorchester, unites with the Piddle on entering Poole harbour, the common estuary of the two rivers, having between them Wareham, which gives to them the name of the Wareham N. and Wareham S. streams.

Deserta is another quarter of the county on E., “a thousand furlongs [once] of sea, [now] of barren ground, ling, heath, furze, anything.” It is an equilateral (18 miles either side) triangle, of which the points are Cranborne, Dorchester, Studland. Wareham is in the centre of it. The N. portion of it drains through the Stour into Christchurch Bay, the remainder through the Piddle and Frome, all chalk streams in their origin, into Poole harbour.

ii. GEOLOGY.

In one particular Dorsetshire geology is noteworthy. Three purely provincial names—Kimmeridge clay, Portland oolite, and Purbeck stone—are typical formations, and have taken their place among geological terms. The range of rocks is not so extensive as that of Somersetshire, but is perfect and continuous, as far as it goes, from the Bagshot sands down to the lias, that is to say, throughout the lower eocene, the cretaceous, and the oolitic systems; there is not an important member of the series missing. The economic uses of these rocks are various. The quarries of Portland have provided a breakwater at their foot, the casing and forts of which are also built of it. They have given to London many of its finest buildings—St. Paul’s Cathedral and many other of Sir Christopher Wren’s churches, Goldsmiths’ Hall, and the Reform Club House. The dark colour and high polish of Purbeck shell marble may be seen in the slender shafts and columns of the Temple Church, St. Mary’s, Redcliffe, Wells, Gloucester, and Salisbury cathedrals, in which last, however, though not exposed to the outer air, it has been found to scale, and is being replaced by Devonshire marble. The freestone at Marnhull has been used in the neighbouring churches, and the greensand of Shaftesbury, Cerne Abbas, and elsewhere on the margin of the chalk affords good building materials. The *chert* is used for rough building purposes, and is excellent material for roads. The clay pits between Wareham and Corfe yield annually thousands of tons of fine clay to the manufacturers of Staffordshire and Scotland, and even of Spain

and Holland. The Smedmore shale of the Kimmeridge clay used to furnish both naphtha for lamps and carbon for the disinfection of manure; but in the former respect it has been superseded by the American oils. The chalk makes the best of lime. The lias also has an economic use in making hydraulic cement. But it is in its fossil remains, whether animal or vegetable, such as the saurians in the lias at Charmouth and Lyme, or the oolite bed of Portland, that the geology of Dorset is most interesting.

The lower lias and marlstone are found in the W., flowing round the chalk of the Blackdown Hills, Pillesdon Pen, Lewesdon Hill, Coneygore Hill, Stonebarrow Hill, and some other such islands, to the sea from Lyme, where very remarkable fossil remains have been discovered, to Bridport. To this belong the valleys of the Char and Brit. The lower oolitic sands, rubbly freestone, forest marble, and cornbrash, in the E. of the county, descend from Somerset in a waving band between Stalbridge and Sherborne. A low line of hills E. of Yeovil, of which Babylon Hill is the centre, belongs to them. They pass southward by Bradford Abbas, Lillington, Ryne, Yetminster, Closeworth, Melbury, and Halstock, skirt the chalk by St. Perrot, Mosterton, Beaminster, and Powerstock, and so to the sea at Burton Bradstock, then along the coast by Puncknoll, Langton Herring, and Radipole.

At the half-way house between Yeovil and Sherborne there is a quarry, which should be visited for its intrinsic interest and as offering a typical section of the lower oolite in Dorset. Underneath the superficial mould are 9 feet of freestone, called by the quarrymen "white lamas," and beneath that a fossil band of about 2 feet, then a bed of hard blue stone about 4 feet, with sands underneath it.

The line of road from 2 miles N. of Wincanton, in Somersetshire, to 1 mile S. of Stalbridge, in Dorsetshire, about 12 miles, traverses exclusively, with two unimportant exceptions, a narrow band (less than half a mile broad) of cornbrash, passing through the villages of North and South Cherington, Horsington, Templecombe, and Henstridge.

There is a valley about 4 miles broad stretching from Wincanton southward for 9 miles, then turning westward for 11 miles as far as Melbury Osmund, and lying for 15 miles between oolitic hills, the cornbrash road just mentioned on the W., and coral rag, where the Stours (W., E. and Provost),

Marnhull, Sturminster Newton, and Haselbury are situated, on the E., and for 5 miles between oolitic hills on N. and chalk and greensand on S. This valley—in fact, the Blackmoor Vale, watered by the Cale in the portion leading southward, by the western branch of the Lidden in its western portion—is Oxford clay. There are inconsiderable spots of Oxford clay on the S.; indeed, Melcombe Regis is on it; but this favourite watering-place owes its popularity to other causes than its geological position. Weymouth and Wyke Regis, close by, are on the coral rag.

In the N. bulge of the county, and between coral rag and chalk, is a mass of Kimmeridge clay, in which Gillingham, Motcombe, and Shilling Okeford are situated. Here is the E. branch of the Lidden, uniting with the Cale at Stalbridge Mill and with the West Lidden at King's Mill, and thence pursuing its course through Sturminster Newton and Blandford. But the spot from which this rock derives its name is on the E. part of Weymouth Bay, reaching as far as St. Ealdhelm's Head. It is also the base on which the Portland stone rests, and is seen at Portland Ferry and in N. of the island. It contains an inflammable oil, which renders it so combustible that it is called Kimmeridge coal, is used as fuel, and even sometimes takes fire spontaneously.

Besides the coral rag and calcareous grit sections already mentioned, there are sections of these strata on the coast at Weymouth and Wyke Regis, and a band of it about half a mile broad overlooking Weymouth Bay from Abbotsbury on W. to Jordan Hill on E.

The Portland oolite, with the Portland sands underlying it, is found in the island whence it takes its name, in spots of Weymouth Bay, at Ringstead, Durdle Door, and the portals of Lulworth Cove. The fossil contents of the Portland oolite—shells, saurian bones, and coniferous wood—are of the highest interest. The Purbeck marble next occurs in the so-called isle of that name, first in a narrow band on the W., then spreading from Kingston and Worth Matravers to Durlstone Bay and Peverel Point. To the N. it is bounded by a band, about a mile broad, of Wealden beds from Worbarrow Bay on W. to Swanage Bay on E., with Corfe Castle in the centre. Between them the chalk, greensand, and Weald clay are parallel and nearly straight lines, running W. and E. across the Isle of Purbeck.

St. Aldhelm's Head is Portland and Purbeck on Kimmeridge clay, and Durlston Head is Purbeck on Portland. In the Purbeck strata occur the famous "dirt beds." These are old soils with silicified trunks of trees. In these beds the remains of many genera of mammals have been found at Durlston Bay. Insect remains also occur in the Purbeck. It is a typical fresh-water formation, with terrestrial interludes.

The greensand makes well-nigh the circuit of the county, in the usual irregular and ragged fringe to the chalk. Entering from Wiltshire at Shaftesbury in N., it proceeds S. for 9 miles as far as the bottom of Hod Hill and the two Okefords (Child and Fitzpaine), thence westward for 34 miles to the very limits of the county at Lewesdon and Pillesdon Pen, the highest points in the county; then turning S.E. by Beaminster, and running for 48 miles, it makes its exit at the N. side of Swanage Bay. A line drawn from this point to Hod Hill measures 22 miles. It is, however, almost entirely the upper greensand. A little lower greensand is met with from Hartgrove to Shillingstone, and a little gault between the two greensands extends as far S. as Wooland. In the N. slopes, where it dives under the chalk, the fertile nooks and valleys of the greensand are full of interest and beauty. One such valley is traversed by the railway from Evershot to Maiden Newton, whence branch others to the W.; another such valley extends from Minterne to Cerne Abbas; another contains the two Melcombes. The central mass of Dorset chalk occupies one-third of its area, extending from Pentridge in the N.E. to the neighbourhood of Beaminster and Abbotsbury in the S.W. (this country is full of faults); thence proceeding S., it touches the sea at Swyrehead and Ballard Down. Its course from Abbotsbury to Swyrehead, 15 miles, is determined by a great W. and E. fault, which brings it into contact with Purbeck beds, Portland stone and sand, and Kimmeridge clay. These two points, 18 miles apart, are noteworthy.

The coves of the Dorset coast, such, for instance, as that at Lulworth, are due to the denudation of soft clays behind hard limestone or sandstone beds. When the latter is once broken through, the softer beds behind are easily washed out.

The tertiary system corresponds with *Deserta*, which has already been described as an equilateral triangle, of which the sides (each 18 miles) are from Cranborne to Puddletown Heath (within 2 miles of Dorchester), thence to Studland, and

thence to Cranborne again. It consists of plastic clay bordering the chalk all the way from Cranborne to Puddletown Heath, and thence to the sea at Swyrehead and Studland. To this succeed London clay and Bagshot beds, also in bands and spots, Wimborne Minster occupying one of them. In the centre of the triangle, with a base extending along the coast from Studland to Poole, are Bagshot sands.

The local museum at Dorchester should be visited.

iii. DESCRIPTION ; COMMUNICATIONS ; INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

Dorsetshire—in the Saxon chronicles *Dorsæta*, in Domesday *Dorsete*—takes its name from the original inhabitants, the Dorsætas, who, in turn, derive their appellation in its Latinized form of Durotriges, waterside dwellers, from the two British words *dwr*, water, and *tre*, a place or dwelling, probably because the headquarters of the tribe were by the side of some inlet or piece of water, perhaps the Poole inlet, running up to Wareham. On the N.E. it is bounded by Wiltshire, on the E. by Hampshire, on the N.W. by Somersetshire, and on the W. by Devonshire; the sea is its southern boundary. The length from E. to W. is 55 miles, and its breadth from N. to S., owing to its irregular outline, varies from 5 miles to 40 miles. It contains an area of 625,911 acres, or about 1000 square miles. Its population in 1871 was 195,537; in 1881, 191,028; and in 1891, 194,517.

The chief resources of Dorsetshire are agricultural. The dairy produce is large, and there is a great deal of corn grown. About Bridport hemp is much cultivated to supply the rope and twine works of that town. There are silk-throwing mills at Sherborne and elsewhere. The ship and yacht builders of Poole are favourably known. Poole and Weymouth are the chief ports of the county. Its trade is almost entirely coasting. The quarries of Purbeck and Portland are of great celebrity for their excellent building-stone. There is a very extensive manufacture of pottery and tiles in the vicinity of Wareham and Poole, and potter's clay and pipe-clay are largely dug, and exported from the same district.

The southern part of the county is traversed from E. to W. by the S.W. Rly., which runs by Wimborne and Wareham to Dorchester, where it is joined by a branch of the G.W. from

Yeovil, which continues S. to Weymouth and Portland. It gives off branches to Poole and Swanage. Branches are thrown off at Maiden Newton to Bridport and at Broadway Junction to Abbotsbury. The Somerset and Dorset line traverses the western part of the county from N.W. to S.E., running from Templecombe, by Sturminster and Blandford, to Wimborne. The main line of the S.W. Rly. runs through the N. of this county for a short distance in the neighbourhood of Sherborne.

iv. ANTIQUITIES: BRITISH; ROMAN.

Few parts of England can show so many remnants of primitive antiquity as Dorsetshire, or indicate so clearly what Britain must have been before the invasion of the Romans. No less than twenty-five hill fortresses of (probably) pre-Roman date are enumerated by Hutchins. The grandest specimen of these, hardly to be equalled in England, is Maiden Castle, near Dorchester. After this we may mention Badbury Rings, near Wimborne (Mons Badonicus); Eggardon, near Bridport; Flowers Barrow, near Lulworth; Rawlsbury Rings, near Bulbarrow; Hod Hill and Hambledon Hill, overlooking the valley of the Stour; Woodbury and Weatherbury; and Pillesdon.

The hills are studded with sepulchral barrows, which have been, almost without exception, opened and ransacked. A full account of them may be found in Mr. Sydenham's paper on "The Dorsetshire Barrows" ("Archæologia," vol. xxx.), Mr. C. Warne's "Celtic Tumuli of Dorset," and General Pitt-Rivers' works. The Dorsetshire tumuli are distinguished for the paucity and simplicity of their contents; some few, which are non-sepulchral, are simple cenotaphs. The body was either buried entire or burnt, and the few whitened bones encased in a cyst or urn, and placed in the centre of the mound, sometimes covered by a flat stone, or packed round with flints. The prevailing form is the bowl-shaped tumulus, frequently surrounded by a shallow fosse, with a slight external vallum. The bell-shaped tumulus is less common. Twin barrows are of occasional occurrence. The most beautiful form is the so-called Druid or disc-shaped barrow, of which the best examples are at Woodyates, Longbredy, and Winterborne. The whole are purely Celtic. The long barrow is seldom seen, but it is

found at Bere Regis, Blandford, and Pimperne, at Chettle and the Gussages. A complete necropolis at Rimbury, in the parish of Sutton Poyntz, was examined by Mr. Warne, when nearly 100 urns were exhumed, and a large number of skeletons found placed singularly *under* the urns. This was evidently the burial-place of the powerful tribe which occupied the adjacent hill-fortress of Chalbury. The "Cerne Giant" may also be mentioned as probably of Celtic date.

Dorsetshire abounds in the traces of the dwellings of the original Celtic or British inhabitants. These are sometimes mere pits or hollows in the turf, which formed the base of a wattled hut. The best examples are found at Bondsleigh, Ibberton Park, and near Jackman's Cross. The traces of more extensive villages are seen at Melcombe Horsey, and on the downs of Affpuddle, Askerswell, Cattistock, Eastbury, or Tarrant Hinton. Those on Blandford Down, E. of the old telegraph, and the site Vindogladia (Woodyates), may be dignified with the appellation of towns. Of fortified towns the best examples are Badbury, Bindon Hill, Buzbury, and Chalbury.

Roman remains are frequently to be met with scattered over the county. The Via Iceniana (Icknield Way) traversed the county from Sorbiodunum (Old Sarum) to Durnovaria (Dorchester) and thence westwards to Exeter, with vicinal ways to Ischalis (Ilchester), on the Fosseway, Moridunum (perhaps Seaton), and Clavinium (Jordan Hill, near Weymouth), and Crewkerne. The best-preserved castra are at Cattistock, Duntish, Hod Hill (within the Celtic camp), and Milborne. Dorchester, by its plan and the remains of its fortifications, declares itself Roman "*castra stativa*." The amphitheatre of Maumbury is undoubtedly a Roman work. Poundbury Camp may be so also, but is perhaps Danish. The tessellated pavements at Dorchester, Weymouth, Sherborne, Dewlish, Rampisham, and Frampton speak of a long and peaceful Roman occupation. Mosaic pavements have been also discovered at Lenthay Green, Halstock, Preston, etc.

There are few unmistakable marks of the Saxon settlement beyond the local names, and there are still less that can be assigned to the Danish marauders, though Wareham and its vicinity so frequently suffered from their devastating inroads. The finest Saxon tumuli are on the downs at Woodyates. The walls of Wareham have been attributed to the same period, but are more probably British.

Poundbury is ranked by Mr. Warne among Danish camps, and the Long Bury Barrow, near Slaughtergate, in Gillingham parish, among Danish barrows.

V. ARCHITECTURE AND CHURCHES.

ARCHITECTURE.

I. *Military*.—With the magnificent exception of Corfe, one of the very finest remains of military architecture in England, and Sherborne, which still preserves considerable remains of Bp. Roger's Norman keep and gatehouse, the castles of Dorsetshire have almost entirely passed away, leaving little beyond grassy mounds and some fragments of walls. At Dorchester and Shaftesbury we have merely the site, at Wareham one angle of a rectangular enclosure, and slight remains at Sturminster Newton. A considerable portion of Bow and Arrow Castle, Portland, is standing. Portland, Sandsfoot, and Lulworth castles are of the 16th century.

II. *Domestic*.—Dorsetshire is very rich in picturesque stone houses. Almost every village offers some examples of more or less value, nor are there wanting buildings of high architectural interest. The chief are:—

Fourteenth Century.—Woodsford Castle, a most interesting and perfect example, sufficient to atone for the absence of others of this date.

Fifteenth Century.—Parnham; Sherborne.

Sixteenth Century.—Athelhampton; Bingham's Melcombe; Canford Manor (part); Clifton Maybank; Mapperton; Melbury; Melcombe Horsey; Sherborne, Almshouse, etc.; Wimborne St. Giles; Winterborne Herringstone; Wolveton; Hanford; Cranborne; Lower Walterston; Chantmarle; Upper Cerne.

Of more modern mansions, some of much architectural value, we may name Bryanston, Canford Manor, Charborough, Kingston Lacy, More Crichel, Over Compton, Sherborne Lodge.

III. *Monastic*.—Sherborne Minster deserves the first place among the monastic foundations of Dorsetshire. The magnificent church is perfect, and many interesting remains of the conventual buildings are incorporated in the grammar school. Of Wimborne only the church exists; of Milton Abbas, the

church and the abbot's hall; the foundations alone remain of Bindon Abbey; of Cerne Abbey we have part of the abbot's house, a fine gatehouse, and barn; at Abbotsbury, the barn and part of the gatehouse. Ford Abbey preserves, in the fabric of a modern house, large portions of the cloister and conventual buildings of a Cistercian foundation. The Knights of St. John of Jerusalem had estates in this county at Chilcomb, Friar Moyne, Holme Priory, Ringston, Stintesford, Toller Fratrum, Warmwell, and Waye.

CHURCHES.

Here the prevailing style is Perpendicular. Many churches seem at first sight to exhibit this style alone, in which specimens of the other styles may be found in individual features. In some parts of the county there is abundance of good stone, and the churches are often well finished externally; but in others flints are much used, sometimes chequered with stone.

In the Isle of Purbeck, and near the coast, Norman work often occurs, and there are a few small churches, which are pretty complete specimens of that kind, as Studland and Worth. There is also good Early English work to be found, especially in chancels, as at Buckland Newton.

Of Decorated there seems to be less than of any other style, though there is a fine example of it in portions of Milton Abbey.

On the borders of Somersetshire the Perpendicular is richer, and the execution better. The towers approximate to the ornamental character peculiar to that county, but they are generally of a good style throughout Dorset, almost invariably having a turret on one side and often pinnacles. The spire is very rare. Iwerne Minster and Winterborne Steepleton are perhaps the only ancient specimens. Panelled belfry arches with groined tower ceilings are very common in the western district, and also rich and elegant pierced parapets.

The churches are not generally very large, with the exceptions of the minsters of Sherborne and Wimborne, which last has a central and a western tower, and they often have but one aisle. There is usually a chancel arch, but in most cases the clerestory is wanting. The roofs are often coved, and are sometimes of a rich character, as at Bere Regis and Marnhull. There are crosses at Rampisham, Sturminster Marshall, and Stalbridge.

There is not much screen-work, and perhaps no rood-loft, though the rood-steps are generally found. There are several instances of hagioscopes, but the sedilia, piscinæ, etc., are not usually of remarkable character. Some tolerable pieces of painted glass are to be found, and several early fonts.

Sepulchral brasses are rare, but there are some fine tombs and some good monumental effigies.

vi. PLACES OF INTEREST.

Shaftesbury.—St. Peter's Church ; Views from Park and Castle Hill ; Cranborne Chase.

Wimborne.—Minster ; Canford Manor ; Kingston Lacy (pictures) ; Badbury Rings ; Charborough House ; More Crichel ; St. Giles' Park ; Woodlands ; Monmouth's Ash ; Horton.

Poole.—Harbour ; Tile Works ; Branksea Island ; Bournemouth. Excursion to Swanage and Corfe.

Wareham.—Church ; Engraved Stones ; Walls ; Corfe Castle ; Creech Barrow ; Creech Grange ; Swanage.

Wool.—Bindon Abbey ; Turberville Manor-house ; Wool Bridge ; Lulworth Castle ; Winfrith ; Lulworth Cove ; Bere Regis ; Pits on Affpuddle Heath.

Dorchester.—St. Peter's Church ; Fordington Church ; Tessellated Pavement in Gaol ; Museum ; Walks round Walls ; Amphitheatre ; Poundbury ; Wolveton ; Charminster ; Maiden Castle ; Herringstone ; Blackdown ; Hardy's Monument ; Nine Stones ; Hellstone ; Bridehead ; Kingston Russell ; Woodsford Castle (near Moreton Station) ; Cerne Abbas, Remains of Abbey ; Puddletown ; Athelhampton ; Walterston.

Weymouth.—Sandsfoot Castle ; Wyke Church ; Chesil Bank ; Isle of Portland ; Verne Ford ; Breakwater ; Quarries ; Convict Establishment ; Portland Castle ; Bow and Arrow Castle ; Caves Hole ; Abbotsbury, Swannery, Decoy, St. Catherine's Chapel ; Chalbury ; Sutton Poyntz and White Horse ; Osmington. Excursion to Lulworth Cove and Swanage.

Isle of Purbeck.—Swanage ; Studland Church ; Agglestone ; Corfe Castle ; Godlingstone ; Quarries ; Tilly Whim ; St. Ealdhelm's Head and Chapel ; Worth Matravers ; Encombe ; Kingston Church ; Kimmeridge ; Gadcliff ; Worbarrow Bay ; Lulworth Castle ; Flower's Barrow ; Arish Mell ; West Lulworth Cove ; Durdle Door.

Bridport.—Church ; Old Houses ; West Bay ; Eggardon Hill ; Burton Bradstock ; Charmouth ; Whitchurch ; Vale of Marshwood.

Beaminster.—Church ; Parnham House ; Broadwindsor ; Lewesdon and Pillesdon Hills.

Lyme Regis.—Church ; Cobb ; Saurian Remains ; Pinhay Landslip ; Conie Castle ; Lambert's Castle ; Uplyme.

Maiden Newton.—Church ; Frampton Church and House ; Wynford Eagle ; Rampisham Church ; Chantmarle House ; Melbury House and Park.

Blandford.—Bryanston ; Camps of Hod Hill, Hambledon Hill, Buzbury ; Crawford Castle ; Iwerne Minster ; Fontmell Magna ; Milton Abbey ; Bulbarrow ; Rawlsbury.

Sturminster.—Castle ; Marnhull Church ; Nash Court (pictures).

Stalbridge.—Church ; Cross ; View from Park ; Vale of Blackmoor.

Sherborne.—Minster ; Grammar School ; Hospital ; Castle ; Lodge (pictures) ; Cemetery ; Lewston Park ; Dungeon ; Round Chimneys ; Glanville's Wootton Church.

vii. CYCLING ROUTES.

- (1) **Swindon to Salisbury**.—Through Wroughton to Avebury (from which a fine ride over downs to Devizes on W.), to Marlborough (Devil's Den on way); thence to Pewsey (awkward hill down into Marlborough opposite way and dangerous on this), and through Upavon and Littleton to Amesbury (here diverge W. for Stonehenge). Three miles beyond Amesbury there is a hill dangerous either way. The road passes Old Sarum on rt. to Salisbury (46 miles).
- (2) **Chippenham to Salisbury**.—Over Old Derry Hill (dangerous other way), through Rowde, over Dunkirk Hill (dangerous other way), to Devizes (good ride E. over downs to Avebury); thence through Potterne, West Lavington, Maddington, and Wilton to Salisbury ($35\frac{1}{4}$ miles), or

- (3) **Chippenham to Salisbury.**—Through Lacock, Melksham, and Westbury (from which diverge to Edington) to Warminster; thence through Heytesbury, down the Wylde Valley, to Stapleford, Wilton, and Salisbury (a fine and interesting ride) ($41\frac{1}{4}$ miles).
- (4) **Salisbury to Sherborne.**—Through Wilton, Barford, Shaftesbury (dangerous hill out of town), Stour, Milborne Port, and Sherborne ($37\frac{3}{4}$ miles).
- (5) **Salisbury to Weymouth.**—Through Combe Bissett and past Woodyates Inn and Cashmore Inn (shortly beyond this diverge on rt. for Tollard Royal and Farnham); thence through Tarrant Hinton, Pimperne, Blandford, and Thorncombe (dangerous hill beyond this) to Whitchurch, Puddletown (diverge rt. for Milton Abbas), to Dorchester; thence over Ridgway (dangerous hill) and through Broadway to Weymouth ($46\frac{1}{2}$ miles).
- (6) **Sherborne to Weymouth.**—Through Long Burton and Holnest to Lion's Gate (beyond this a hill dangerous other way), to Minterne, and Cerne Abbas; thence a splendid road to Dorchester; thence to Weymouth as last route (27 miles).
- (7) **Dorchester to Lyme Regis** (a very hilly ride).—Through Winterborne St. Martin's and W. Steepleton and W. Abbas, over Blue Ball Hill (dangerous), to Bridport (here diverge S. for West Bay); thence to Chideock (hill beyond this dangerous other way), to Morcombe Lake, and Charmouth, at which hill dangerous other way, and beyond it hill to Lyme dangerous on this. N.B.—Both these are *very* dangerous hills (24 miles).
- (8) **Weymouth to Wareham.**—Through Preston, Osmington, Poxwell, Winfrith and Wool (here diverge for Bindon Abbey), over Wool Bridge, passing Turberville Manorhouse, to Wareham, a capital ride ($18\frac{1}{4}$ miles).
- (9) **Weymouth to Wimborne.**—To Dorchester; thence by Puddletown, Bere Regis, and Bailey Gate to Wimborne, a capital ride ($30\frac{1}{4}$ miles).
- (10) **Weymouth to Swanage.**—To Wareham as No. 8; thence through Corfe Castle to Swanage ($28\frac{1}{4}$ miles).

- (11) **Weymouth to Abbotsbury and West Bay** (a bad, rough ride).—Over Swing Bridge to Chickerell and Portisham; thence to Abbotsbury (hill out of this very dangerous other way) along downs, then a very dangerous descent, with awkward gate out of sight at bottom, to Swyre; through Burton Bradstock to West Bay ($14\frac{1}{2}$ miles).
- (12) **Dorchester to Wareham over “Egdon” Heath**.—Past Stinsford and through Tincleton. Keep quite straight on and ascend Gallows Hill for view to l. at turn for Wool, then straight on again to Wareham (15 miles). Another good heath-ride is from Bere to Wareham (7 miles), leaving machine to walk to top of Woolsbarrow for view.

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ROUTE 1.

LONDON TO BATH BY SWINDON, WOOTTON BASSETT (MALMESBURY), CHIPPENHAM (BOWOOD, CALNE), CORSHAM, AND BOX.

(*G. W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	London.
77½ m.	Swindon.
83 m.	Wootton Bassett.
87¾ m.	Dauntsey.
	Dauntsey.
2 m.	Great Somerford.
6 m.	Malmesbury.
	Dauntsey.
94 m.	Chippenham.
	Chippenham.
6 m.	Calne.
	Chippenham.
98¼ m.	Corsham.
102 m.	Box.
104½ m.	Bathampton.
107 m.	Bath.

AFTER an almost uninterrupted ascent from London by easy gradients, shortly after leaving the Shrivenham Stat., the rly. crosses the little river Cole and enters Wiltshire 73¾ m. from Paddington.

[Just outside the Wiltshire border, in the county of Berks, on the road from Farringdon to Swindon, 2 m. E. from Highworth, stands **Coleshill House** (Earl of Radnor), built 1650, one of Inigo Jones's latest and least altered works, containing a fine hall and many good family portraits, including several by Sir J. Reynolds. The adjoining *Ch.*

contains a monument, by Rysbraeck, to one of the Bouveries, and some marble effigies of the Pleydells and Pratts, Lord Radnor's maternal ancestors. It has a handsome Perp. tower, an excellent W. door, and in the nave some late Norm. and good Dec. architecture. In the Bouverie aisle window are a pedigree of the family and a view of Coleshill in coloured glass. The E. window, representing the Nativity, was brought from Angers in 1787. (See "Handbook for Berks.") The village, in which no house for the sale of intoxicating beverages is permitted, consists mainly of cottages erected by Lord Radnor, conspicuous for their pleasing design, as well as their size and comfort.

2 m. from Coleshill, 6 m. from Swindon, is **Highworth** (to which there is a short branch rly. from Swindon), an ancient town, belonging at the time of the Domesday Survey to the royal demesne, standing, as its name implies (the high "worth," or protected enclosure), on a lofty hill, commanding views over the counties of Gloucester, Berks, and Wilts. The *Ch.* (St. Michael's) is on an elevated site, like many churches dedicated to the archangel. It is chiefly Perp., with a western tower and good pierced parapets. There is a chantry on the S., which contains some pieces of armour hung over the monuments of the Warnefords, of Warneford Place, near Sevenhampton, popularly known as Sennington. Highworth Church was fortified and held for the King in the civil wars, but was taken by Fairfax's army on their march from Naseby

westwards, June 27th, 1645. "The soldiers," writes Sprigge, "had good booty in the church, took 70 prisoners and 80 arms." Some weeks later a skirmish took place, with considerable loss. A large number of skeletons were found in a field to the W. of the church. 2 m. N.W. of the town is **Hannington**, a pretty village, built in the form of a Y. The *Ch.* has a Norm. S. doorway. Hannington was the birthplace, 1638, of Narcissus Marsh, Primate of Ireland, whose father had migrated hither from Kent. *Hannington Hall*, the seat of A. D. Hussey-Freke, Esq., D.L., is a mansion in the Elizabethan style, commanding fine views of the district around. 2 m. W. is **Blunsdon Castle Hill**, so named from a small circular camp.]

74 m. the rly. crosses the Roman road from Silchester to Cirencester, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. passes **Stratton St. Margaret**, taking its name from its position on the Roman street, where was an alien Benedictine priory, granted by Henry VI. to King's College, Cambridge.

77 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. ***Swindon Junction Stat.**, the summit of the main line, 270 ft. above the Paddington terminus, and 292 ft. above the station at Bristol. The South Wales division of the rly. here branches off rt. to Gloucester, 37 m., and to New Milford, 208 m., and having numerous branches connecting it with various towns on the route, with the northern division of the Company's lines, and with the various South Wales coalfields.

Upwards of 200 trains on an

average pass through the station daily. Many of the passenger trains make a short halt to enable passengers to avail themselves of the refreshment-rooms.

The Midland and S.W. junction line runs S. to Marlborough and Andover (Rte. 3), and N. to Cirencester and Cheltenham, thus connecting Birmingham and the midland and northern districts with Southampton and Portsmouth and the south of England.

Swindon Station takes its name from the old market town of that name on the high ground to the l. The portion near the station is known as **Swindon New Town** (Pop. 27,295), and has grown up round it since the opening of the G.W. line in 1842, in what was previously a rabbit warren and pasture land. The G.W. Rly. Co. has here established the headquarters of the locomotive and carriage departments of the whole of their system. Their premises include an area of about 208 acres, the buildings alone occupying upwards of 30 acres. The works are divided into two great divisions: the *locomotive factories* and the *carriage and waggon works*; and there are also *rolling mills*.

The *locomotive works* consist of various large shops for different departments of the work, each distinguished by a letter of the alphabet. The whole of the operations connected with the construction and repair of locomotives, engines and tenders, are here carried on. Here also are made all water-tanks, turntables (standard 55 ft. in diameter), cranes (hand and steam power), girders, etc., etc.

The number of men employed is about 11,500, who receive nearly £600,000 a year in wages, exclusive of the salaries of the chief officers. Visitors are permitted to visit the works on Wednesdays after 3 p.m. The departments best worth visiting are the *iron foundry* (J), the *general smithy* (Y), the *brass foundry* (U) and *brass fitters* (T), the *wheel shops* (D) and (N), and the *wheelsmiths' shop* (S). In (B) and (C) engines are repaired. One of the most attractive is the *steam-hammer shop*, where several large hammers of immense force are at work in welding the metal fresh from the furnaces into compact masses. In the *rolling mills* rails have not been rolled for many years. Merchant bars of superior quality and special sections are the chief output.

The *carriage and waggon works* cover an area of 12,483 square yards; the floor is laid out partly for machinery and partly for sidings, with self-acting traversing-tables for carrying the vehicles in and out of the shop. All carriages and waggons built at Swindon for many years past have steel under-frames, and the plant for dealing with these frames is very complete. When in full work five eight-wheeled carriages and 100 goods waggons can be turned out each week.

In addition to the construction of the locomotives, carriages, and waggons required for the service of the company, a great variety of other work is taken in hand. Nearly 400 tons of chairs per week are cast for the Permanent Way Department; large quantities of castings are made for the Signal Department; and a con-

siderable staff is occupied in the construction and repair of station furniture and fittings. The heavy repairs to the pumping machinery in use at the Severn Tunnel, and the hydraulic machinery in use at the various docks and stations of the company, are also carried out here.

The carriage stock of the company is now being fitted with oil-gas lamps, and with steam heating apparatus, almost the whole of this work being done at Swindon.

At the time of the change of gauge in May, 1892, with the exception of a few hundred waggons which were taken in at the Bridgwater workshops, the whole of the broad-gauge rolling stock was brought to Swindon to be converted or broken up. Thirteen miles of additional sidings were laid to receive this stock. The total number of broad-gauge locomotives was 195; of these, 130 had been so constructed that they were readily convertible to narrow-gauge. There were also 748 passenger train vehicles, and upwards of 3400 waggons and vans, a large proportion of which had also been constructed with a view to conversion. This was especially the case with a number of the eight-wheeled carriages, which required only the changing of the bogies and the alteration of the foot-boards to transform them from broad to narrow gauge. On one occasion 25 coaches were so converted in 6½ hours by means of specially constructed hydraulic trap lifts.

The *Mechanics' Institution* is a fine building, and contains a library comprising upwards of

25,000 volumes and separate reference library, a commodious and well-supplied reading-room, billiard, chess, ladies' reading, and council rooms, with large room for dramatic or other performances, lecture room, etc.

Every workman in the Company's works at Swindon contributes to a medical fund, which secures the services of medical men, maintains an accident hospital, and provides washing, swimming, and Turkish baths, and other sanitary arrangements.

The *Ch.*, built by the Company at the cost of £6000 (Sir G. G. Scott, architect), is in the Dec. style, with a tower and crocketed spire 140 ft. high. Opposite the church a large piece of ground is laid out as a park and cricket-field, the property of the Company.

The new red-brick church of *St. Paul's*, by Mr. E. B. Ferry, was consecrated June 28th, 1881, and there are several other modern churches.

1 m. l., on the summit of the hill, is the old market town of **Swindon** (Pop. 33,001), a rather picturesque town with old houses of red brick and stone, commanding extensive prospects over Berks and Gloucestershire. The *Ch.* was rebuilt on a new site by Sir G. G. Scott, with a fine spire. Abp. Narcissus Marsh was vicar here in 1662. There is a town-hall, market-house, and Corn Exchange. *The Lawn* (F. P. Goddard, Esq., J.P.) is a handsome Italian residence. 1½ m. S.E., on the Liddington road, is *Coate Reservoir*, adjoining which is the birthplace of the late Richard Jefferies. It is the reser-

voir of the Wilts and Berks Canal, and forms a fine lake of 80 acres, abounding in fish, in a beautifully wooded district. The *quarries* of building-stone (Portland oolite containing fossils), and the view from the tower of the Corn Exchange, both deserve notice. The view is very extensive, commanding to the E. the great chalk ridge, with its entrenchments and barrows, "the scene probably of the early Celtic settlements, of the final struggle of that people against the Saxons, and subsequently of some of the most severe contests between the Saxons and the Danes." Four camps are visible: 2 to N., Blunsdon and Ringsbury, near Purton; 2 to S., Badbury or Liddington Castle and Barbury. This ground forms the N. limit of that range of chalk which extends in a compact mass as far as Salisbury, and branches thence through Dorset to the sea, including among its lonely hills some of the most stupendous Celtic works now extant. In the plain to the N.E. will be observed **Coleshill** (Earl of Radnor), and 2½ m. S., on the flank of the Marlborough downs, **Burderop Park**, seat of the Calleys; 5 m. distant are **Barbury** and **Liddington Castles**, fine specimens of, probably, British castrametation, the one on the old and the other on the new road to Marlborough (see *post*). On the Lambourn downs, E., is **Weland Smith's Forge** (see "Handbook for Berks"), a chambered sepulchre of some ancient chieftain. It is commonly called *Wayland Smith's cave*, from an old legend, of which Sir Walter Scott makes a romantic

use in "Kenilworth," about an invisible smith replacing lost horseshoes there. *Weland* or Volundr was the *Vulcan* of the Anglo-Saxons (see Dr. Thurnam's memoir, "Wilts Archæological Magazine," vol. vii.). The **White Horse** is distant 1 m., and the **Blowing Stone**, which readers of "Tom Brown's School-days" will remember, is within a few miles. All these objects, which are of the first interest to archæologists, can easily be seen from Swindon, as can Avebury, so that it is a very good centre for antiquarian explorations.

Proceeding on our route—at

80 m. 3 m. l. is **Bassett Down House**, once the residence of Dr. Maskelyne, the Astronomer Royal, and now of M. H. N. Storey-Maskelyne, Esq., M.A., F.R.S.

1½ m. rt. **Lydiard Tregoz** (4 m. from Swindon, 3 m. from Wootton Bassett), so called from its ancient owners, the Tregoz family, from the reign of Henry VII. the seat of the St. Johns, Viscounts Bolingbroke, and Barons St. John. The plain stone mansion stands in a park finely wooded with wild oaks. The *Ch.* deserves notice. The windows of the chancel contain a good deal of stained glass, some of which is mediæval. The central part of the E. window, of Caroline period, contains a figure of Oliver St. John with an *olive* tree, in allusion to his name, from the boughs of which hang the shields of the different heiresses through whom the estates came to the St. John family. One of the monuments, to Katharine, daughter of Sir John

St. John, wife of Sir Giles Mompeyson (said to have been the original of Sir Giles Overreach of Massinger, himself a Wiltshire man), is over the chancel door. In the chancel is a singular triptych of great size, with portraits of the St. John family inside and a complete genealogical tree outside with coats of arms, the whole executed by a former Lady Bolingbroke. There are gorgeous monuments of the St. John family. Among them are those of Nicholas and Elizabeth St. John, 1589, kneeling figures, under a Corinthian canopy; Edward (d. 1645), in gilt armour, with a scene at the battle of the Windmill, at which he commanded a part of the forces, carved in low relief on the pedestal; Sir John and his two wives and children, adjoining the altar; John, Viscount St. John (d. 1748). From the number and richness of its monuments it is called by the common people "Fine Lydiard." The communion rails are of remarkably rich Renaissance work, freely gilt. The great Lord Bolingbroke was buried at Battersea.

1 m. W. is *Midghall Farm*, an old moated house, once the grange of Stanley Abbey.

83 m. **Wootton Bassett** Stat. The town (Pop. 2200) occupies the summit of a hill; it was once the inheritance of the Bassetts of Wycombe, its first name being corrupted from Wodeton, "Woodtown." It is a small market town of a single street, nearly ½ m. long, disfranchised by the Reform Act of 1832. Lord Clarendon, the historian, was first returned to Parliament as its member.

The *Ch.* was of a very unusual plan, of 2 long aisles spanned by one roof, without distinction of chancel. But in 1871 the church was restored and enlarged by Mr. Street, at the cost of the trustees of Sir H. Meux, and the building of a N. aisle has changed the original arrangement. The old church now serves as a S. aisle to the new church; the staircase to the rood-loft has been preserved on the S. side. The roof is panelled, and has the original painting. The tower, at the W. end of the S. aisle, is low and small. The prevailing features are Perp. The S. porch has a parvis and good groining. There is a wall-painting representing the death of St. Thomas of Canterbury.

In the Town Hall, restored in 1889, was formerly preserved the *cucking* or *ducking stool*, bearing the date 1668, now removed to the museum at Devizes, once

“The dread of every scolding quean.”

This was an arm-chair on wheels, with two long poles or shafts, to the ends of which were fastened ropes. The woman who was supposed to have merited immersion was tied into the chair, and the machine wheeled to a pond. The shafts were then released, and the chair with its unfortunate occupant tilted into the water. When the ducking had been duly performed, the stool was again raised by a pull on the ropes. An old man living in 1869 remembered witnessing the penalty inflicted on one Peggy Lawrence, about 1787, in the weir-pond to the W. of the Angel and Crown inns.

A great number of septaria, or cement-stones, are found here in the Oxford clay, a stratum of the middle oolite. Farther N. are the coral-rag hills, and, bounded by their woods, the camp of *Ringsbury*, 1 m. W. of Redstreet, 3 m. on the road to the Purton Stat. (Rte. 2).

[**Broad Hinton**, 5 m. S.E. towards Marlborough, was the residence of the great lawyer *Sir John Glanville* (b. 1590), Speaker of the House of Commons, 1640. “His seat,” says Evelyn in his “Diary,” 1654, “is at Broad Hinton, where he now lives, but in the gatehouse; his very fair dwelling having been burnt by his own hands, to prevent the rebels making a garrison of it.” In the church of St. Peter ad Vincula, an interesting building, restored in 1880, chiefly E.E., with a Perp. tower, are a tablet to him, an alabaster effigy of Colonel F. Glanville, killed at the siege of Bridgwater, 1645, a huge monument to Sir T. Wroughton, his wife, and 8 children (d. 1591), and a memorial to the great Duke of Wellington, who was lord of the manor at the time of his death.

The church of **Winterbourn Bassett**, 1 m. S. of Broad Hinton, situated on the downs, 2 m. S., of the time of Edward III., was restored 1857. The tower is Perp., and the N. window of the N. chapel of the best period of Dec. Here are two small stone circles.

Cliffe Pypard, 4 m. S. of Wootton, on the slope of the steep greensward cliff running

W. by S. from Liddington to Highway, commanding lovely views, was severely visited, Sept., 1856, by a remarkable whirlwind, which, descending from the high land, destroyed several hundred trees on the grounds of the *Manor-house*, an Elizabethan house (H. N. Goddard, Esq., D.L., J.P.). The *Ch.* (restored 1874) is a fine Perp. edifice, with a good western tower. The chancel has recently been brought back to its original E.E. design. There are good oak screens painted in the original colours, and a fine oak roof. The monuments are numerous and interesting. The S. aisle contains a brass (c. 1380) with effigy of a knight, probably a Quintin of Bupton. There is a large marble monument to a native worthy and benefactor, Thomas Spackman.

Brinkworth, 4 m. W. of Wootton. The *Ch.* is Perp.; the chancel is restored, but the remainder possesses the old pews and gallery. There are very narrow hagioscopes, N. and S. of the chancel, a Jacobean pulpit and sounding-board. There are remains of frescoes in many parts of the church, especially over the chancel arch, and on a pillar near the door, where the figure of a bishop with the head of a saint appearing above him can be clearly made out.]

Leaving Wootton Bassett, the line proceeds at first along an embankment, descending 50 ft. in a mile, commanding a wide view of the valley of the Avon, with its companion canal, and

then enters a deep cutting, crossed by a bridge carrying a road from Malmesbury towards Cliffe Pypard.

87 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Dauntsey** Stat. On the l. is **Bradenstoke Hill**, one of the highest oolitic ranges of N. Wilts, crowned by the remains of the priory (now a farmhouse), and the fortified position of **Clack Hill** within a stone's throw of the priory. A deep fosse cuts off a headland between 2 valleys, on which is a square earthwork with high banks and a deep ditch, enclosing a beacon mound in the centre. The view from the hill and from the abbey northward is of great extent and beauty.

Bradenstoke or **Broadstoke**, better known as **Clack Abbey**, was one of 4 religious houses which stood here in early times on or near the banks of the Avon; the others were Malmesbury, Stanley, and Lacock. "Its remains," says the poet Bowles, "yet appear conspicuous on the edge of that long sweep of hills which formed the S.W. bounds of the ancient *forest of Braden*, from whence the Danes descended like a storm to lay waste the country about Chippenham and Lacock." Bradenstoke was founded, A.D. 1142, for Augustine or Black canons, by Walter d'Evreux, father of Patrick, Earl of Salisbury, and great-grandfather of Ela, Longespée's wife. At the dissolution it was granted to Richard Pexhall, and afterwards belonged to the Danverses and Methuens, now to Sir G. Goldney. The remains of the priory are well worth inspection. They consist of the refectory range, on the N. side of the cloister court, with

the prior's house at the E. end, and the domestic offices to the W., the whole supported on a vaulted undercroft, with octagonal piers, an admirable example of Early Dec. work (c. 1320). The hall is lighted with three beautiful 2-light windows of curvilinear tracery, set between bold buttresses, connected (since 1732) with a screen of round-headed arches. The interior is cut up by partitions, and the very finely carved oak roof, with the Dec. ball-flower on the beams, can only be seen in the garrets. At the west end of the refectory are the usual 3 doors opening into the kitchen, cellar, and buttery respectively. At the other end of the hall are the prior's chambers, with corner staircase and wardrobe turret, with a so-called "holy thorn" growing out of the parapet, as in Buck's view. A large carved stone chimney-piece, of a Late style of Perp., has been removed to Corsham Court. A boss in the ceiling of the chief room bears the initial of W. Snow, the last prior, who became the first dean of Bristol. Close to the house is a plain 15th-century barn with modern roof. Of the conventual church on the opposite side of the cloister court there are no remains. Many stone coffins and ancient interments have been dug up on the site of the cemetery. Within the grounds of the abbey is a pilgrims' well, and there is an ancient cross in the village. A new *Ch.* has been built by Sir G. Goldney in the village.

The pillar seen conspicuously on the ridge of the hill l. commemorates Maud Heath, of Langley (see *post*).

[At Dauntsey Stat. a short branch diverges rt. to *Malmesbury*, 6 m. The line pursues the course of Avon through pleasant green meadows $2\frac{1}{4}$ m., passing *Dauntsey* $\frac{1}{4}$ m. out.

Dauntsey lies $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to rt., $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Malmesbury. The *Ch.*, the chancel of which was restored 1879, contains a brass to Sir John Danvers (d. 1514), with his wife, and one also to the Lady Anne herself, who was daughter to Sir John Dauntsey (c. 1535), also an interesting monument to Sir Henry Danvers (d. 1644), created Baron Danvers by James I., and Earl Danby by Charles I. He and his brother Sir Charles Danvers were the principals in the extraordinary assassination of Henry Long at Corsham (see "*Wilts Archæological Magazine*," vol i. p. 316), for which, from some unexplained cause, they were never brought to justice. Sir Charles was afterwards attainted and beheaded for his share in Essex's plot, 1600. Lord Danvers was a patron of George Herbert, and it was to Dauntsey ("a noble house which stands in a choice air"—*Walton's "Lives"*) that the poet retired in 1629, when threatened by consumption, and here he met his wife, daughter of Mr. C. Danvers, of Baynton. (Lord Danby founded the Botanic Garden at Oxford, and built the entrance gateway from a design of Inigo Jones.) The monument records that he died full of "honours, woundes, and daies." The epitaph on the E. side is from Herbert's pen, though, as Herbert died in 1633, more than ten years before Lord Danby, it was written by anticipa-

tion. He was succeeded by his brother John, one of Charles I.'s judges, whose estates, being forfeited to the Crown, formed part of Mary of Modena's dowry, and were granted by Queen Anne to Mordaunt, Earl of Peterborough. The last earl was buried here in 1814. The *manor* belongs to Sir H. Meux, Bart.

The line crosses the Avon and reaches

2 m. 1. **Great Somerford** Stat., with its grey pinnacled *Ch.* tower peering out from the trees. **Little Somerford** lies a little further on to rt.

Passing through a short tunnel before reaching the station, there is a very striking view of the abbey church, and a stately gabled house crowning the steep green slope above the line. The stat. is to the N. of the town.

6 m. ★ **MALMESBURY** (Pop. 2964) is a decayed place, chiefly remarkable for its abbey church, one of the most valuable architectural relics in England, picturesquely situated on a peninsular ridge flanked on either side by running streams which unite at the S. extremity of the town to form the Lower Avon, answering to Leland's description, "The toune of Malmsburie stondeth on the very toppe of a great slaty rock, and ys wonderfully defended by nature, for Newton water comith 2 miles from N. to the town, and Avon water comith by W. to the town, and meets about a bridge at S.E."

The view of the town and abbey ruins is good from almost all points. There is a steep slope to the N., and from the rising

ground opposite the effect is very fine.

Malmesbury in British times was known as *Caer Bladon*; under Anglo-Saxon rule it became *Ingelburne*, and was an important frontier military post of Wessex. The name of Malmesbury (*Maidulfesburgh*) is derived from an Irish missionary named *Maidulph*, or *Maldulph*, who in the early part of the 7th century planted a hermitage under the shelter of the fortress and gathered a school around him. Among his scholars was the famous *Ealdhelm*, afterwards first bishop of Sherborne (A.D. 705), a member of the royal stock of Wessex, who, after pursuing his studies in the schools of Hadrian the African and Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury, returned to Malmesbury, and became the first abbot of the monastery founded there, A.D. 680, by the grant of Leutherius, Bishop of Winchester, to whom the land round *Ingelburne Castle* belonged. *Ealdhelm's* is one of the greatest names in the early ecclesiastical literature of England. He was the first Anglo-Saxon on record who wrote in Latin, and the fame of his classical knowledge, "*vestræ Latinitatis panegyricus rumor*," was widely spread not only in his native land, but on the Continent, and reached the ears of dwellers in remote Frankish provinces. Bede says of him that he "was a man most learned in all respects, for he had a clear style, and was wonderful for ecclesiastical and liberal erudition." Though so skilful in the composition of Latin verse, "in which," says Bede, "he wrote a notable book on virginity," he did not altogether neglect vernacular poetry; and "seeing with sorrow the little effect the services of religion had on the peasants, who listened to sermons with indifference, and forgot them as soon as

heard, he placed himself on the bridge over the Avon which they had to cross on their way home, in the garb of a minstrel, and when he had arrested the crowd and fully enthralled their attention by the sweetness of his song, he gradually introduced into his popular lay some of the solemn truths of religion, and thus won many hearts to the faith" (Milman, "Lat. Christ." ii. 96). On his death, at Douling, in Somerset, in 709, his body was brought to the monastery he had founded, and buried in St. Michael's Chapel, but was afterwards translated and placed near the high altar. William the Conqueror instituted a feast of four days in his honour, still observed in Leland's days, five centuries afterwards, which drew such crowds from all the country round, that soldiers were required in the town to keep order.

Another early teacher, "John the Scot," Abbot of Athelney, A.D. 887, met with a far less favourable reception at Malmesbury, "being," says Leland, "slayne of his own disciples thrusting and striking hym with their table pointelles." "This," he adds, "is John Scott that translated Dionysius out of Greek into Latin." He was also author of "A Treatise on the Division of Nature." The great patron hero of Malmesbury is "the glorious Aethelstan," who rebuilt the monastery from the ground and enriched it with large grants of land and the bones of St. Samson, besides a portion of the True Cross and Crown of Thorns. The "commoners" of the borough still hold a large tract of land, said to have been granted to them by Aethelstan for their services in his battles against the Danes. "Aethelstan's Day" is observed annually on the second Tuesday after Trinity Sunday. At his death, in 941, he was buried near the

altar of St. Mary in the Tower. Another benefactor was St. Dunstan, who, out of love for St. Ealdhelm, presented the church with an organ with metal pipes. Bp. Roger of Sarum, the all-powerful favourite of Henry I., built a castle, to the "great indignation of the monks," in the very churchyard, not a stone's throw from the church. In the civil wars of the 12th century Stephen held Malmesbury, which, after various changes of fortune, was attacked by Henry of Anjou, A.D. 1152, and taken, with the exception of the keep, in Stephen's absence. The King hastened to relieve his fortress, but "the stars in their courses fought against him," and the snow, driving in his men's faces, determined the day in Henry's favour, and the castle fell. It was rased to the ground by the monks in the reign of John to enlarge their monastery, the buildings of which at the dissolution extended over, not 45, as absurdly stated, but 6 acres. In the reign of Edward III. the abbot received a seat in the House of Peers, and a mitre was added by Richard II.

The ***Abbey Church** (SS. Peter and Paul) is the fragment of a building which, when perfect, must have stood very high among our ecclesiastical edifices. Its plan was of the fullest cathedral type, and its scale surpassed several churches of cathedral rank, while its architecture is of a very high degree of merit. Originally it was a complete cross church, with central and W. towers. The central tower, crowned with a lofty spire, "a marke to al the countrie about, fell daungerously," according to Leland, "*in hominum memoriâ*" (c. 1500), "and since was not re-edified." The other,

“a greate square toure at the west end of the chirche,” was erected in the centre of the W. end in late Perp. times, as at Christchurch, Twynham, Bolton, Wimborne, Shrewbury, Furness, etc., and appears to have fallen soon after Leland’s time, crushing the whole western portion of the nave. The portion now in use consists of the 6 eastern out of the 9 bays of the nave, walled up at the E. end; thus excluding to the W. the remains of 3 bays, with the relics of the W. front, and to the E. 2 of the Norman lantern arches, originally supporting the central tower, with a portion of the W. wall of the transepts. Of the eastern limb the merest fragment remains attached to the N. lantern arch. The W. front, of rich Norman work, was a show façade (the prototype of that of Lincoln and Salisbury), with angular turrets and a screen-wall masking the ends of the aisle. A large Perp. window had been inserted in the centre. The external elevation of the nave is very fine, chiefly from the great height of the clerestory, a Dec. addition, and the fine series of pinnacles and flying buttresses. Vertical bands of circular medallions break the wall on either side of the clerestory windows in the 3 eastern bays. The N. side, being concealed by the cloisters, was plainer. The most striking feature of the church is the S. porch, “of surpassing richness, the profusion of ornament work exceeding that of any other part of the building.”—*Rickman*. It is of the same character as the W. door of Iffley, near Oxford, and, instead of shafts with capitals supporting

the arch, it has 8 concentric *boutells*, three covered with continuous bands of sculpture of the most elaborate character and 5 with interlaced patterns. The sculptures, which have been fully described by Professor Cockerell (“Sculptures of Wells Cathedral”), appear to represent—on the first arch, the history of the Creation, Fall, Cain and Abel; on the second, the Deluge, offering of Isaac, scenes from the history of Moses, Samson, and David; on the third, scenes from the history of our Lord, the Annunciation, Nativity, Flight into Egypt, Last Supper, Crucifixion, Burial, Resurrection, etc., with intervening bands of elaborate foliage. The inner doorway has a “Majesty” in the tympanum, and the apostles on either side of the arcaded porch. The whole was recased externally in the Dec. age. There is a smaller and plainer Norm. door to the N., which originally opened into the cloisters.

The fabric of the church is usually ascribed to Henry I.’s all-powerful favourite, Roger, Bishop of Sarum, and is placed by Mr. Parker between 1115 and 1139. It is a very early example of Trans.-Norm. work, with as yet but few traces of the approaching change beyond the obtusely pointed arches of the nave. The hood mould is ornamented with the billet mouldings, and terminates in grotesque heads. The piers are massive cylinders, about 2 diameters high, with imposts hardly deserving the name of capitals, from which vaulting-shafts rise, spreading out into an elaborate groined roof with rich bosses, a Dec.

work of the same date as the clerestory, the windows of which are of a somewhat unusual pattern. The triforium shows a semicircular arch embracing 4 smaller ones. "The whole elevation must have been one of the very grandest in England. It has all the solemn majesty of a Romanesque building, combined with somewhat of Gothic aspiration. The bays are tall and narrow, the triforium large, the clerestory still larger."—*E. A. Freeman*. The aisles retain their Norm. vaulting, and, for the most part, their windows. In the fourth bay of the N. aisle a tall Dec. window has been inserted, rising above the aisle vault, and to accommodate it a little Dec. vault with ribs and bosses has been substituted for the Norm. vaulting cell, covered by a gable on the outside. This change probably marks the site of an altar, of the reredos of which there are traces in the capital of the column beyond. Two curious but coarse Dec. windows in the S. aisle deserve notice. There is curious drop-tracery in the centre light. A clumsy stone chamber, perhaps a watching-chamber or for the exhibition of relics, of Perp. date, projects from one of the bays of the S. triforium.

At the crossing two of the Norm. lantern arches remain, that to the W. blocked and that to the N. (singularly stilted to bring its apex to the same height with its wider neighbours) standing free, and forming a striking object in all views of the abbey. The rood-screen remains, its central door being blocked, and forms the reredos of the present church. At the S. end of each aisle is a

screen of Perp. date, but with Dec. tracery. A tomb supporting a mutilated crowned effigy, called Athelstan's, and which may very possibly be his, though of a much later age, and removed from its original site, stands to the S. of the present altar. Some incised coffin-lids are still preserved in the church, and in the vestry are some specimens of encaustic pavement.

The preservation of the abbey remains is mainly due to one Master Stumpe, "an exceeding riche clothiar that bouthe them of the King," who gave the nave to the parish and erected his looms in the vast deserted monastic offices, not sparing even "the little church" to the S. of the transept (the traditional scene of John Scot's murder by his pupils), where Leland found them busily working (c. 1538). Stumpe should live in the memory of every lover of architecture as "the chef causer and contributor to have the abbey chirch made a parish chirch." This was carried into effect by Abp. Cranmer's licence, 1541. The old parish church of St. Paul's, standing as usual close to the abbey, was disused, and the E. end, in Leland's time, served as a town-hall. The tower, crowned with a broach spire, still serves as a campanile for the parish. The last remains of the nave were taken down in 1852.

Malmesbury was continually being taken and retaken by the contending forces during the great Rebellion. Aubrey says that one of the pillars of the central tower and part of the superstructure were brought down by the volleys of shot fired in rejoicing on Charles II.'s restoration.

To the N.E. of the church is an Elizabethan house built on the substructure of part of the abbey buildings, probably the abbot's house. This substructure was a lofty crypt with a row of pillars down the centre; the windows have foliated rear arches.

There are several other fragments of antiquity in and about Malmesbury. The **Market Cross** is a very good example of this class of buildings, displaying good Perp. work of the 16th century. Leland speaks of it as erected "*in hominum memoriâ*," and describes it justly as "a right faire piece of work." It is octagonal, with angle piers and buttresses, having arches between, and flying buttresses to a central shaft terminating in a canopied pinnacle, decorated with statues, of which only St. Lawrence and a mitred bishop can be made out. The roof within is groined. The *Corporation Almshouse*, at the S.E. end of the town, close to St. John's Bridge, includes a fine E.E. doorway walled up, and part of a hospital of St. John of Jerusalem. In this building Henry VIII. was entertained by Stumpe the clothier, and Charles I. feasted by the Corporation.

The historian *William of Malmesbury* derives his name from having been educated in the monastery here, of which he became librarian and precentor, and refused the dignity of abbot (ob. c. 1143).

Oliver of Malmesbury, a Benedictine monk and astrologer (ob. 1060), is mentioned by Fuller as having attempted a flight from

one of the abbey towers. He had fastened wings to his hands and feet, but they proved unequal to his weight, and he fell, breaking both his legs.

Malmesbury was the native place of *Thomas Hobbes*, the philosopher, author of the "*Leviathan*," b. 1538, at Westport, a suburb of the town, of which his father was vicar. A small house, with a low arched doorway, opposite the W. end of Westport Church, is erroneously pointed out as his birthplace.

PLACES NEAR MALMESBURY.

2 m. N. of Malmesbury is

(a) **Charlton Park** (Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire), a stately mansion, of Jacobean architecture, of which the oldest part was built by Sir Thomas Knyvet, temp. James I. The E. front was added in 1773 by Henry, Lord Suffolk, Secretary of State in the American war. The W. front is attributed to *Inigo Jones*. The open court in the centre has been roofed over and converted into a hall; the interior is modernized, excepting one long gallery with oak panelling, and the original stucco roof with pendants. This is hung with interesting portraits, curious as historical memorials rather than fine as works of art, excepting the 3 children of Charles I. (a sketch—half-lengths), and Elizabeth, Countess of Northumberland, by *Vandyck*.

Here are Richard Sackville, Earl of Dorset, *Mytens*; Sir Jerome Bowes, Ambassador to the Czar of Muscovy, *L. de Heere*;

Sir Edward Sackville, Earl of Dorset, who slew Lord Bruce in a duel, and fought at Edgehill, *Mytens*; James I., *Mark Gerard*; Queen Elizabeth, Charles I., Lady Emily and Gertrude Howard, *Cornelius Jansen*; George Villiers, first duke of Buckingham, *Van Somer*; Diana, Countess of Oxford, *Mytens*; Maria d'Este, queen of James II., *Lely*; John Hampden; and many more. Here is a roomful of Charles II.'s beauties, by or after *Lely*, including Moll Davis, who originally, it is said, was the daughter of a villager at Charlton.

There are, besides, some very good paintings by old masters. That by *Leon. da Vinci*, so well known by the name of "La Vierge aux Rochers," of which there is a repetition in the Louvre, is now in the National Gallery. *Domenichino*, St. Cecilia; (2) whole-length portrait of the widow of Cosmo II., Grand Duke of Tuscany. *Ann. Carracci*, a large landscape, with the Flight into Egypt*: (2) a male portrait. *Guido Reni*, the Adoration of the Shepherds.* *Holbein*, Catherine Howard, queen of Henry VIII. *Bagnacavallo*, the Virgin borne by angels to heaven. *Pietro F. Mola*, a landscape, with Hagar and Ishmael. *Agost. Carracci*, a landscape, with the baptism of Christ. *Claude*, 2 small landscapes. *Gaspar Poussin*, 2 small landscapes.* *D. da Volterra*, Christ lamented by His disciples. *Murillo*, the Assumption of the Virgin; (2) the Coronation of the Virgin, the latter by *A. Van der Velde*. *F. Milet*, a landscape, "in the taste of his great model Gaspar Poussin." *G. Poussin*, a landscape, with the Temple of the Sibyl at Tivoli, and the Flight

into Egypt.* *Paul Brill*, a large poetic landscape. *Paul Veronese*, "A Flight into Egypt, here called a Lorenzo Lotto, I am inclined to attribute to this master." — *Waagen*. The 8 pictures marked with asterisks, together with an Ecce Homo by *Guido*, and a Virgin and Child by *Proccaccini*, were stolen out of the two drawing-rooms in a most daring manner on the night of Oct. 10th, 1856, by a discarded servant. Fortunately they were recovered, and in the summer of 1858 were among the works of the old masters exhibited at the British Institution.

Dryden, whom married a daughter of the Earl of Berkshire, was a frequent visitor at Charlton. His letter to his wife's brother, the Hon. Sir Robert Howard, giving an account of his "Annus Mirabilis," is dated from Charlton, Nov. 10th, 1666.

(b) **Great Sherston**, 5½ m. W. of Malmesbury, is considered to be the *Sceorstan* of Henry of Huntingdon, where, in 1016, Edmund Ironside fought an obstinate but indecisive battle with the Danes under Canute. It was a place of some consequence in early times, and has a large Norm. *Ch.* with a debased central tower. A great part of the picturesque village is built within a fortified earthwork on a point of land between 2 streams, the most perfect part of which is to the W. of the church.

At a short distance N.E. is an entrenched camp, probably constructed at that time by the Saxon army. Near the village is *Pinkney Park* (Lieutenant-Colonel W. W. Turner, J.P.), and 2½ m. S., close to the Roman

road, a spot called *Elm and Ash*, from 2 trees which apparently grew from one root, and in the popular belief had sprung from the stakes driven through the body of a suicide who had been there interred.

(c) W. of Malmesbury runs the Roman **Fosseway**, almost in a direct line from Cirencester to Bath. The station of **Mutuan-tonis**, or *White Walls*, occupied the high ground near *Easton Grey*, 3 m. due W.

(d) **Foxley**, 2 m. S.W., gave the title of Baron Foxley to Lord Holland.

(e) **Bradfield**, S. of Foxley, is an old manor-house with pointed windows. One of its former owners was William Collingbourne, author of the rhyme reflecting on Richard III. and his ministers Catesby, Ratcliffe, and Lovel—

“The Cat, the Rat, and Lovell the Dog,
Rule all England under the Hog”—

for which he was executed.

90 m. rt. **Christian Malford**, on the Avon, which the rly. now crosses, and keeps it on the l. The *Ch.* has a fine Dec. S. aisle, with some ancient stained glass in its E. window, an ancient oak screen dividing the nave and S. aisle from the chancel and Lady Chapel, and a remarkable Norm. font.

91½ m. **Tytherton Kellaways**, l., giving its name to the *Kellaways rock*, one of the limestone beds of the Oxford clay, almost

entirely composed of fossil shells. At East Tytherton is a community of Moravians, founded by Cennick in 1745. A short distance beyond this the line crosses Maud Heath's Causeway (see *post*).

94 m. **Chippenham Junction Stat.**

[Here the *Wilts*, *Somerset*, and *Weymouth* branch of the G.W.R. passes off southwards to Dorchester and Weymouth. Another short branch goes to Calne (see *post*).]

★ **CHIPPENHAM** (Pop. 5392). This is an agricultural and manufacturing town, situated on the *Avon*, here a clear winding stream, working various mills. The old Bath and London road passes through the town. It is celebrated for its cheese and corn markets. The former is held in an extensive covered building, erected for the purpose by the late Joseph Neeld, Esq., of Grittleton. The cloth made at Chippenham was deemed worthy of the first prize in the Great Exhibition, 1851. The town has a tannery and a large establishment for condensing milk.

Chippenham is a town of great antiquity and historic interest. As its name implies (A.-S. *ceapan*, to buy), it was a market town in Anglo-Saxon times, and having a large royal forest round, it was sometimes a residence of the kings of Wessex. Here Aelfred resided, and his sister, Aethelswith, was married to Burhead, King of Mercia. Chippenham was taken by the Danes in 878, who made it their headquarters, whence they ravaged the whole adjoining country. Aelfred's reappearance from his retreat at Athelney and

his victory at Ethandun was followed by his return to Chippenham, which he bequeathed to his daughter Aelfrith, wife of Baldwin, Count of Flanders, for life. It came back to the Crown, and was one of the manors held by Edward the Confessor "in his own hand."

It was the birthplace of *Dr. John Scott* (b. 1688), author of "The Christian Life," who upon personal scruples twice refused a bishopric. *Lodovick Muggleton*, founder of the sect which bore his name, was also born here in 1607. In 1742 Sir Robert Walpole, finding himself in a minority of 16 on a question relating to a Chippenham election, resigned, having been then Prime Minister of England for 21 years.

The *Old Town Hall* stands near the market-place. The *New Town Hall* was erected at the cost of Joseph Neeld, Esq., of Grittleton, M.P. (d. 1856).

The *Ch.* (St. Andrew's), enlarged and partly rebuilt in 1878, is a large edifice of mixed architecture. The tower, which bears the coat of arms of Lord Hungerford, lord of the manor temp. Henry VI., in 1633 was taken down and rebuilt with a spire, at the cost of £320, to which Sir F. Popham, M.P. for the borough, contributed £40, commemorated by a shield containing his arms over the W. door. The spire is Early Dec.; the W. door is E.E., both rebuilt. The recent repairs have obliterated much of the original work of the chancel (c. 1120). An early window has been removed to another position. The elaborate Norm. chancel arch (c. 1120) has been re-chiselled, and re-erected on the

N. side of the chancel. There is a rich Dec. squint, and a Perp. chapel on S., covered with the cognisances of the house of Hungerford, and another S. chapel of 2 stories; opening by one arch into the church. Sir Gilbert Prynne's monument, 1627, deserves to be noticed. The view from the E. end of the churchyard is very pleasing.

The *Ch.* of *St. Paul's*, built in 1853 from Sir G. G. Scott's designs, in the Dec. style, with a tower and spire 176 ft. high, and a peal of 8 bells by Mears, stands on high ground near the rly. stat.

Maud Heath's Causeway leads from St. Paul's Church N.E. for $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. by the village of *Tytherton Kellaways*, to the top of Bremhillwick Hill, traversing a low tract of heavy clay land and crossing the N. Wilts Avon. It is a stone pitched path, made and still maintained by the benefaction of the individual whose name it bears (popularly said to have been a market woman), of the adjoining parish of Langley Burrell (c. 1474). Her memory is preserved by rhymed inscriptions on stones at either extremity of the path, and on the bridge midway, as well as by the monumental column on the ridge of Bremhillwick Hill, crowned with a rude statue of Maud Heath herself, erected in 1838 by Lord Lansdowne and the Rev. W. Lisle Bowles (see paper by Canon Jackson, "Wilts Archæological Magazine," i. 251). The couplet on the stone at the Chippenham end of the causeway is—

"Hither extendeth Maud Heath's gift,
For where I stand is Chippenham clift."

This position and the adjoining drive on Wick Hill command one of the finest and most extensive views in Wiltshire, including W., Monkton Farleigh Tower, and Beckford's Tower at Bath, and the Badminton woods; and E., Roundway Down, Compton House, the White Horse, the Cherhill Column, and the Wansdyke.

In the vicinity of the town are *The Ivy* (A. B. Rooke, Esq., J.P.); *Notton* (Lady Awdry); *Lackham* (Mrs. Taylor), formerly the seat of Lieutenant-Colonel Montagu, the naturalist; and *Hardenhuish Park*, commonly called *Harnish* (E. H. Clutterbuck, Esq., J.P.). The church of Hardenhuish was built by Wood of Bath. The cemetery contains a monument to the financier David Ricardo, father of the late Mrs. Clutterbuck, buried here 1823, and to John Thorpe, the learned editor of the "Registrum" and "Custumale Roffense."

EXCURSIONS FROM CHIPPENHAM.

(a) 4 m. N.E. at Foxham stands **Cadenham** (or Cadnam), formerly a manor-house of the Hungerfords, whose arms, with the Seymours', it bears on the garden front, a small and rather poor house, erected in the 17th century. Evelyn was a visitor here in 1654, and was "long and nobly entertained." Among the outbuildings the dove-cot remains. This once important appendage of every manor-house

is well worth examination. It is a much-dilapidated oblong stone building, with rows of nesting-places and a louvre at the top for the entrance of the birds. A church was erected here in 1879, from designs by Mr. Butterfield.

(b) 4 m. N. is **Draycot Cerne**, the seat of Earl Cowley, at present occupied by Prince Francis Hatzfeldt-Wildenburg, an ancient seat of the Cernes and Longs. The house contains many objects of interest, paintings, Sèvres china, curious fire-dogs, and candelabra presented to the Longs by Charles II. after the Restoration. The park is one of the finest in North Wilts, richly studded with ancient oaks, crowning a hill commanding an extensive prospect. The monuments of the Cernes and Longs in the *Ch.* are interesting, including a knight in chain-armour, said to be Sir Philip Cerne, a brass to Sir E. Cerne and lady (c. 1393), and a rich altar-tomb to Sir Thomas Long, and some modern monuments. The chancel is on a lower level than the nave.

(c) 2½ m. N.W., at Lanhill Farm, in the hamlet of Allington, close to the Bristol road, is a tumulus known as **Lanhill Barrow** or **Hubba's Low**, and traditionally known as the burial-place of the Danish leader Hubba, but considered by Dr. Thurnam to be a British work. It was constructed of stones laid with the hand, and contained rude sepulchral cysts formed by large rough slabs of the stone of the country.]

[3½ m. S.E. of Chippenham is the Marquis of Lansdowne's seat, ***BOWOOD**. It is also accessible from Calne, from which it is distant 2 m. S.W. It is a mansion in the Italian style, combining splendour and taste with comfort, originally erected by the Earl of Shelburne from designs by the brothers Adam. It is not shown except by a personal order from Lord Lansdowne. The gardens and park can be seen by obtaining an order from the estate agent. Bowood owes many of its most interesting associations, as well as much of its beauty, to its late distinguished owner, Henry, 3rd Marquis of Lansdowne (d. 31st January, 1863), who not only enlarged and embellished the ornamental grounds and filled the house with a noble collection of pictures, books, and various works of art and taste, but made it the hospitable resort of those who were distinguished in science, literature, and art. The principal entrance of the park is from Chippenham, by an arched gateway, flanked by a tower after a design by Barry, and ornamented on the inner wall by two reliefs by M. L. Watson. Opposite the gilt gates is the pretty little village of *Derry Hill*, full of modern half-timbered houses, and a *Ch.* with lofty spire, built in 1848. The drive to the house is nearly 2 m. through luxuriant woods, an occasional view being obtained of the Lansdowne Column and the White Horse cut on the slope of the Cherhill downs. From Calne the park road skirts the garden for the distance of a mile. The principal front, with a Doric portico, faces the S., and attached to it is a long, low wing, contain-

ing a conservatory opening on a succession of terraced gardens, and built in imitation of a wing of Diocletian's palace at Spalato. The view from this S. front is exceedingly beautiful: the lake winding through the woods, the ferry to the rustic cottage just peeping from the trees, the prospect over the forest upland to the purple hills of Roundway and Beacon Down.

Among the various apartments are distributed the pictures, which include specimens "of the best masters of the Italian, Flemish, Spanish, French, and English schools. They are arranged upon walls of crimson silk, which has an excellent effect."—*Waagen*. Among them may be enumerated:—

In the **drawing-room**: *Salvator Rosa*, portrait of himself; (2) portrait of the Marchese Ricciarelli. **Rembrandt*, his famous mill, viewed at sunset, the finest landscape Rembrandt ever painted; there is a dark solitary grandeur about it. *L. Carracci*, the Virgin and Child. *Domenichino*, a small landscape. *G. Bassano*, the Entombment. *Gainsborough*, cattle returning at sunset. *Sir Joshua Reynolds*, (1) an imaginary portrait of Dr. Johnson in infancy: "Puck in the Sulks";* (2) the Strawberry Girl, "with all his glow of colour"; (3) Love nourished by Hope; (4) Mrs. Baldwin in a Turkish dress, purchased at the sale of Sir Joshua's pictures by Phillips, R.A., as a study of colour. **J. Ruysdael*, a storm at sea, representing a vessel beating in to a harbour. "Among the few pictures of this class by Ruysdael,

this, in point of grandeur of conception and astonishing truth, is one of the finest."—*Waagen*. (2) View of a town upon a stream, of charming light and shade. *P. Wouvermans*, a landscape. *J. F. Navarete*, called *El Mudo*, head of Donna Maria de Padillas, a portrait of exquisite beauty. "This brings before us in a most lively way, and with a Rembrandt glow of colour, the genuine character of those Spanish women whom Calderon loves to describe."—*Waagen*. *Titian*, Virgin and Child, "painted in the clear golden tones of his earlier period." *B. Luini*, a Magdalen. **Hogarth*, portrait of Peg Woffington, the actress. *Murillo*, portrait of an ecclesiastic, a very fine example of the master. *Berghe*, a landscape. *A. Carracci*, landscape, "a grand composition of mountains, sea, and lofty trees." *Claude*, view of a seaport by the morning light, a concentration of the painter's excellences. *Wilkie*, a Capuchin monk confessing.

In the **library**: **Raphael*, St. John the Baptist preaching in the wilderness, perhaps the most valuable picture in the collection. It is a specimen of Raphael's transition from his Perugian to his Florentine style, painted in 1505. "The youth in a green cap is evidently the portrait of Raphael himself."—*Waagen*. The figures are in the costume of the time. *S. del Piombo*, a monk with a skull. *Giorgione*, a shepherd, evidently a portrait of the master himself. **Domenichino*, a small landscape, with Abraham and Isaac going to Mount Moriah. "The poetic composition, fine transparent colour, and singularly

careful execution, render this a perfect jewel."—*Waagen*.

In the **cabinet**: *Wilkie*, the Jew's Harp; (2) Grandmamma's lap. *L. Backhuysen*, a sea-piece. *P. Wouvermans*, a silvery landscape, a perfect gem. *A. Cuyff*, a landscape with cows, full of sunshine. *Greuze*, a girl watching a cat playing with a ball. *N. Maas*, a child in its cradle. *J. Steen*, the Doctor and his Patient. *Velasquez*, two horsemen; (2) a lady seated, and other figures. *W. Van der Velde*, a calm sea. *J. Ruysdael*, a hilly landscape. "This picture shows the intensest feeling for nature."—*Waagen*.

In the **corridor**: *E. Landseer*, the Deerstalker's Return, a procession over a bridge. *Van der Capella*, a sea-piece, "one of his best pictures."—*Waagen*. *Jan Both*, buildings, with figures. *Teniers*, a peasant woman approaching over a hill. *Rembrandt*, a landscape. *W. Van der Velde*, a calm sea, with shipping, "of singularly delicate aerial perspective." *A. Calcott*, the Thames, with shipping, one of his best works. *Goodall*, a sick-room. *Cope*, Going to Church. *Hurlstone*, Cupid. *Etty*, the Prodigal Son. *S. Newton*, the Vicar of Wakefield receiving back his Daughter Olivia; (2) Captain Macheath; "How happy could I be with either." *E. W. Cooke*, view of Mont St. Michel. *F. Albano*, St. John preaching in the wilderness.

In the **dining-room**: *Stansfield*, 6 landscapes, chiefly views of Venice and of the coast about Naples. *Eastlake*, pilgrims in sight of Rome.

Among the **sculptures** are Camilla and a bust of the third marquis, presented by his friends in 1853, and **Westmacott's* celebrated Hagar in the Desert, with the fainting Ishmael in her lap. The cabinets contain a collection of miscellaneous china.

The **gardens** are admirably kept, and abound with the noblest and choicest trees, such as the cedar of Lebanon, the oak, and the cork. The **park** derives beauty from the undulations of the ground, its boundary including as many as nine distinct valleys. Hill and dale are intersected in every direction by green roads. The **lake**, containing an island with a heronry, is a pretty object, issuing from the Great Wood. It terminates in a cascade, which, tumbling over mossy stones, very fairly represents the variety, grace, and *abandon* of nature.

Bowood, in early times, formed part of the royal *forest of Pewsham*, which adjoined that of Chippenham. The estate was purchased by John, Earl of Shelburne, father of the first marquis, from Sir Orlando Bridgeman; it had belonged to the Crown till the reign of Charles I.

On Home Hill, within the woods near the Devizes road, is a mausoleum, the private burial-place of Bowood. It was built in 1764, from the design of Mr. Adam, one of the "Adelphi."

Outside the park, to the W. in a little glen, is a prettily situated old house, called Lock's Well, from a most copious spring which there rushes forth. Here was the original site of *Stanley Abbey*, afterwards removed to the

vale below, of which nothing now remains. The spring was at that time called *Fons Drogonis*, or Drown-font.

Beyond the park on the S. is **Whetham**, an old seat of the Ernle family, and beyond, adjoining the old London road that formerly went by Sandy Lane to Beacon Hill, stood old Bromham House, the seat of the Bayntons. It was so injured in the wars of Charles I. that the family never restored it, but built a new one at Spye Park.

(e) To Malmesbury by road, 10 m.

It is a pleasant excursion through pretty country.

1 m. l. *Hardenhuish Park* (p. 33).

2 m. The cross-roads, *Plough* public-house.

1 m. rt. stands the hamlet of **Kington Langley**, very prettily scattered on a hill, with a new chapel, St. Peter's. The old chapel was converted into a private house in 1670. The village feast, "one of the eminentest feasts in these parts," according to Aubrey, was held on the Sunday after St. Peter's Day. The rise to the village is called **Fitzurse Hill**, from an adjoining farm so called, which was anciently held under Glastonbury Abbey by the Fitzurse family, one of whom was one of the murderers of Thomas à Becket. It was afterwards the property of the 1st and only Baron Hopton (ob. 1652). A house with moat still remains.

1 m. l. from the *Plough* is the village of **Kington St. Michael**.

The manor-house has been rebuilt by H. Prodgers, Esq. An old almshouse in the street was founded by a native, Isaac Lyte, alderman of London (d. 1672). His arms are over the door.

The *Ch.*, of 3 equal, gabled aisles, restored 1857, has a good Trans.-Norm. chancel arch, and an E.E. north arcade, with other remains of early work. The tower, blown down in the great storm of 1703, was rebuilt in a meagre style in 1725. It contains a monumental window to Aubrey and Britton, who, living at an interval of 150 years, were remarkable for similarity of taste and pursuits. Kington St. Michael had formerly a nunnery, of which there are some remains. "Old Jaques," says Aubrey, "who lived on the other side, hath seen 40 or 50 nunnes in a morning spinning with their wheels and bobbins."

Farther on, 1 m., in this parish is the small hamlet of *Easton Piers* (commonly now called *Percy*), in which, on the site of a farmhouse now called **Lower Easton Percy**, was formerly a house, the property of *John Aubrey* the antiquary (1626), who, though stigmatized by Anthony Wood as "a shiftless person, roving and maggoty-headed," has left us many valuable topographical and biographical works. He lived through the Civil War, Commonwealth, Restoration, and Revolution, and for some time resided at Broad Chalk, in S. Wiltshire. *John Britton*, the antiquary, to whose labours English Gothic architecture and antiquities are so much indebted, was born at *Kington St. Michael* in 1771. His father was a baker,

maltster, shopkeeper, and small farmer.

4½ m. on l. **Stanton St. Quintin.** The *Ch.*, restored a few years ago, contains good Norm. arches, doorway, and font. The estate belongs to the Earl of Radnor. A curious old manor-house of the St. Quintins has been taken down. The park that belonged to it was afterwards planted, and is now a well-known cover in the Duke of Beaufort's hunt. In this wood in 1764, George Hartford, a sailor, was murdered by William Jaques, a shipmate, who was hanged for it on Stanton Common, now enclosed. At the back of the rectory-house are some stone shields: (1) see of Wells impaling Thomas Beckington; (2) Fitzhugh; and (3) one like Pulteney, with an ear of barley in chief.

8 m. **Corston.** Here is a little church with a remarkable Perp. bell-turret rising upon the west gable.

To rt. 1 m. on the hill **Rodbourne** (Sir R. Hungerford Pollen, Bart.). At this house is a curious painting of Sir Walter Hungerford, of Farleigh Castle, near Bath, temp. Queen Elizabeth, inscribed to the effect that "he had challenged all England for 3 years together to produce a better war-horse, greyhound, or hawk than he possessed, and was refused for all." This is engraved in Sir R. C. Hoare's "Modern Wilts."

9 m. on rt. **Cole Park**, the seat of Captain P. A. D. A. Lovell, J.P., standing in a park of 47 acres.

10 m. on rt. **Burton Hill** (W. F. Taylor, Esq.). The house having

been burnt down some years ago, was rebuilt by the late owner, John Cockerill, Esq.

(f) To **Castle Combe**, 6 m. N.W., and **Grittleton House**, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. further.

Castle Combe originally belonged to the Dunstanvilles, from whom it was purchased by the Badlesmeres; thence by marriage it passed (c. 1322) to the Tiptofts and (c. 1385) to the Scropes, whose seat it had been for nearly 500 years, until 1867, when it was bought by E. C. Lowndes, Esq. Here lived Lord Scrope of Bolton, Lord Chancellor in the reign of Richard II., and in our time William Scrope, author of "Days of Deerstalking," and "Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing," and till 1867 G. Poulett Scrope, Esq., M.P., author of the "Extinct Volcanoes of France." The situation is romantic. "The house lies deeply embosomed among steep and wooded slopes, in an angle of one of those narrow cleft-like valleys which intersect and drain the range of limestone hills called in Gloucestershire the Cotswolds, and which extend southwards as far as Bath. A small but rapid stream runs through the village, and after a course of some miles joins the Avon near the village of Box, whence it is known as the *Box brook*." Above this stream rises the wooded hill on which the original castle was built by the Dunstanvilles, now reduced to mere mounds of rubbish. In the village stands an ancient *market cross*, square, with high-peaked roof and terminal pinnacle; and numerous old limestone houses

retain the gabled fronts, the labelled and mullioned windows, and the wide stone fireplaces of early times. Of these the *Manor-house*, with its terraced garden, and the *Dowry-house*, are very interesting specimens, the one on the old road to the castle, the other at the end of High Street, on the road leading up the hill to the N.

The earthworks of the castle, containing 9 acres, with strong ditches and banks, seem to prove that a British stronghold existed here centuries before the Norm. castle was built. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1851, with the exception of the fine pinnaced tower with fan-traceried roof, erected in the first half of the 15th century, partly at the expense of the wealthy clothiers of the place, partly of Sir J. Fastolf, second husband of Lady Milicent Tiptoft. The E.E. east window, a fragment of the original church, deserves notice, as well as the chancel arch with 6 figures sculptured in high relief, and an altar-tomb with an effigy in chain-mail.

Near *Nettleton*, 1 m. W. of Castle Combe, is a very interesting tumulus, known as **Lugbury**, 180 ft. by 90, containing stone cysts with skeletons and a cromlech with a table-stone 12 ft. by 6, leaning against 2 uprights.

About 1 m. W. of Castle Combe, and the same distance N.E. of *North Wraxall*, in 1859, the remains of a Roman villa, with baths and hypocaust, and a cemetery were discovered by Mr. Poulett Scrope.

2 m. S.W. **North Wraxall Church** has a Norm. door and

E.E. chancel and tower, the latter covered by a saddleback roof. It contains the monuments of the Methuens.

2 m. beyond Castle Combe, by a pretty drive through the grounds, is **West Kington**, Bp. Latimer's rectory. "In the walk at the parsonage-house," says Aubrey, "is a little scrubbed oak, where he used to sit." The oak is gone, but in the lately restored *Ch.* is the pulpit from which he used to preach. He used to see "the pilgrims come by flocks out of the west country along the Fosseway to many images, but chiefly to the Blood of Hailes," *i.e.*, Hales Abbey, Gloucestershire.

2 m. W. of Castle Combe is

***GRITTLETON HOUSE**, purchased of Colonel Houlton, 1828, by the late Joseph Neeld, Esq., and now the property of his nephew, Sir Algernon William Neeld, Bart. The present mansion (Thomson, *architect*), completed 1857, contains a fine collection of works of art, including a gallery of sculpture, a large collection of paintings of several schools, some beautiful bronzes, etc. Permission to see them is given on application at the house. The principal pictures are as follows:—

Entrance hall: Many animal paintings by *Ward*; Orgueil Castle, Jersey, by *J. T. Serres*.

West gallery: Some very choice Dutch cabinet paintings: temptation of St. Anthony, *Teniers*; the Birdcatcher, *Berghem*; travellers at door, *J. Ostade*; the Waterwheel, *Decker* and *J. Ostade*; portrait of Rembrandt, by

himself; Dutch family and burgo-masters of Amsterdam, *Van der Helst*; Vertumnus and Pomona, *Netscher*; Sir Thomas Gresham holding a pomander, *Sir A. More*; Lady Jane Grey the night before her execution, *Northcote*; Anne Boleyn, *Holbein*; and many others.

Vestibule between galleries: Cornaro family; Dr. Johnson without his wig, *Opie*; Tenducci, a singer, *Gainsborough*; Spanish family, *Gonzales*; President West, by *himself*; Joseph Neeld, Esq., *Sir M. A. Shee*; Sir John Neeld and others of the family.

East gallery: Chiefly Italian pictures. Interior of St. Peter's, *Pannini*; Venus (from Villa Borghese), *Titian*; Mater Dolorosa, *Guido*; Virgin and Child, *Andrea del Sarto*; another, *Garofalo*; another, *Paduanino*; presentation in the Temple, *L. Sabattini*; Tivoli, *Orizonte*; landscape, *S. Rosa*; Magdalen, *L. Carracci*; battle-piece, *Borgognone*, etc.

Shield vestibule and the one adjoining: Raising of brazen serpent, St. Peter preaching, baptism of our Saviour, magicians before Pharaoh, *B. West*; some beautiful enamels, *Bone*.

Dining-room: Dignitary seated holding a letter, *Rubens*; Spanish gentleman, *Velasquez*; Duchess of Ferrara, etc., *Titian*, *Frans Hals*, etc.

Drawing-room: The Mall in St. James's Park, *Gainsborough*; vale of Dedham, *Constable*; Dove Dale, Derbyshire, *Glover*; Hero and Leander, *Etty*; also paintings by *Zoffany*, *Morland*, *Reynolds*, etc.

Staircase: Coronation of Henry VI., *Opie*; Hotspur and Owen Glendower, *Westall*; Cordelia cursed, *Fuseli*; death of Cordelia, *Barry*; Madame de Maintenon and a lady of the court of Bohemia, *Mignard*; Christina, Queen of Sweden, *Bourdon*; spirit of prophecy conveyed to Isaiah, *B. West*.

Sculpture. *Small library vestibule:* The Listening Eve, and Maternal Love, *Baily*; Musidora, *Sévere*. In *shield vestibule:* The Surprise, *E. Papworth*; and several others. *Large gallery:* Nymph preparing for bath, and the Tired Hunter, *Baily*; Bacchus and Ino, *Wyatt*; Eve after the Fall, *Raffaello Monti*; Venus Victrix (the original), *Gibson*; Early Melancholy, *Obici*; Venus and Cupid, and La Pescatrice, *Scipio Tadolini*. In *gallery vestibule:* The Graces, *Baily*. In *west picture gallery:* Adam consoling Eve after her dream, *Baily*; bust of Joseph Neeld, Esq., *Sir F. Chantrey*.

Among the **bronzes** are Flaxman's shield of Achilles, Hercules and Busiris, Boreas and Orithyia, Pluto carrying off Proserpine, Il Fidele (a Middle Age work), and many others.

2 m. E. of Grittleton is the small but highly decorated church of **Leigh Delamere**, entirely rebuilt, 1846, at the sole expense of the late Mr. Neeld. The ancient and peculiar bell-turret was re-erected on a schoolhouse at Sevington, a hamlet in this parish.]

ing the course of the river Marden, an affluent of the Avon. 2 m. from Chippenham it passes l. the site of *Stanley Abbey*, founded by Henry II. and his mother, the Empress Maud, for a body of Cistercians from Quarr, in the Isle of Wight, in 1151, at Lock's Well (see *ante*), and removed 1154 to Stanley. The only remains are a few fragments of walls in the farmhouse. A chain of fishponds, connected at each end with the Marden, can still be traced.

★ **CALNE** (Pop. 3495), once a parliamentary borough returning one member, which, in its day, has returned to the Commons House such notable men as Dunning, Lord Henry Petty (afterwards Lord Lansdowne), Mr. Abercromby, some time Speaker of the House of Commons, T. Babington Macaulay, and Robert Lowe, Viscount Sherbrooke.

Calne has the aspect of a place decidedly past its prime. It had once a busy manufacture of cloth, but this has left it for the northern counties, and its numerous factories are closed. The chief business carried on now is bacon curing, the firm of Harris and Co., Ltd., killing over 100,000 pigs annually.

Calne is a borough by prescription, and dates its origin from the time of the Saxons; but the only historic event at all connected with it is a council held here in 978 to decide the questions between the celibate regulars and the married secular clergy, whose causes were respectively maintained by Abp. Dunstan and Bp. Beornhelm, of Winchester, at which the floor of

From Chippenham a branch line goes l. to *Calne*, 6 m., follow-

the council-chamber gave way, and all were precipitated among the ruins except Dunstan and his supporters. The chief influence in the borough has long been exercised by the lord of the neighbouring Bowood.

Dr. Priestley, the chemist, resided at Calne between the years 1770 and 1780, nominally as librarian, but really as literary companion to the Earl of Shelburne.

In 1814-16 S. T. Coleridge spent some time at Calne as the guest of a Mr. Morgan, the son of a wealthy spirit merchant of Bristol, "a witty, kind-hearted man," writes Cottle, "who ruined himself by thoughtless generosity in lending money to men who never repaid him." This, writes his son Hartley, was "the unhappiest period of my father's life," from the tyranny of opium. "Calne," says Hartley Coleridge, "is not a very pretty place. The soil is clayey and chalky; the streams far from crystal; the hills bare and shapeless; the trees not venerable; the town itself irregular, which is its only beauty. But there were good, comfortable, unintellectual people, in whose company I always thought S. T. Coleridge more than usually pleasant."

The *Castle House* keeps up the memory of the castle, of which all remains have long since disappeared.

The *Ch.* is a fine large building with double aisles to the nave, and aisles to the chancel, the latter probably chantry chapels of St. Mary the Virgin and St. Mary Magdalene, N. and S. porches, and a tower on the N. side, and a corresponding transeptal chapel to the S. The chapel in the S. aisle, dedicated probably to S. Edmund Rich, which con-

tains an ancient piscina, is popularly known as the "Horse Market," a name the origin of which is unknown. The tower, which was originally central, fell on the chancel and crushed it, 1628; both were rebuilt in a much better style than we should expect from the date. The piers and arches of the nave are massive Trans.-Norm. Some of the arches are plain; others have the billet and dog's-tooth ornament. The whole church was restored by Slater, 1864, mainly through the exertions of its late vicar, Canon Guthrie, and contains several fine memorial windows. The great W. window was the gift of Lord Crewe. A reredos, containing the Adoration of the Magi, the Crucifixion, and the Ascension, designed by Mr. Pearson, R.A., has recently been erected.

PLACES NEAR CALNE.

- (a) **Bowood** (see *ante*).
- (b) **Avebury**, 7 m. distant (see Rte. 3).
- (c) The **Lansdowne Column** crowns a lofty promontory of the chalk range, distant $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. It is erected within the area of **Oldbury Castle**, an entrenchment to which, in the opinion of Milner, the Danes retired after their defeat by Aelfred in the battle-field of Ethandune, which this antiquary placed at Heddington, a view now practically exploded. On the adjoining slope is the **Cherhill White Horse**, cut on the chalky ground about the year 1780 by Dr. Alsop, a physician resident at Calne. It is in a spirited trotting attitude, 157 ft.

from head to tail, and visible at a distance of 30 m. The *Wansdyke* will be observed on the downs to the S. *Maud Heath's Column* (see *ante*) is about 2 m. from Calne across the fields.

(d) **Bremhill**, 2 m. N.W., was the living of the poet Bowles (d. 1850), whose residence has been thus described by Moore in his "Diary": "His parsonage-house at Bremhill is beautifully situated; but he has frittered away its beauty with grottoes, hermitages, and Shenstonian inscriptions: when company is coming he cries, 'Here, John, run with the crucifix and missal to the hermitage, and set the fountain going.' His sheep-bells are tuned in thirds and fifths. But he is an excellent fellow, notwithstanding." The "hermitage" is now in ruins, but the vicar courteously allows any who care to do so to visit the very picturesque grounds, where they may still see some of the columns erected by Bowles; some fragments from Stanley Abbey; and the dripping well whose waters are received into a shell given him by Rogers, the author of "The Pleasures of Memory." The *Ch.* will repay a visit. The N.E. angle of the tower shows "long and short work," presumed to be Saxon. The chancel arch and the arcade of the nave (rebuilt with the old stones when the church was "restored" in 1850), and the cylindrical font (engraved in the "Companion to Parker's Glossary of Architecture," plate 34), are c. 1180. The beautifully carved rood-loft and its staircase, described by Bowles, were unfortunately destroyed at the restora-

tion. There is a good stone groined Perp. S. porch, with room over, and a sanctus bell-cot on the extremity of the nave roof. Several epitaphs and inscriptions in the churchyard are from the pen of Mr. Bowles. A flat slab in front of the altar commemorates John Townson, vicar; ejected during the civil wars and returning to his benefice at the Restoration, he lived till 1687, and founded the almshouses at Calne, S. of the church. There is also a monument in the chancel to the last Hungerford of Cadenham (ob. 1698).

(e) $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E., **Compton Bassett**.

Compton Bassett House (Major Clement Walker-Heneage, v.c.), beautifully situated on a wooded slope of the downs, was built by Sir John Weld, who d. 1674, and has been restored by subsequent owners. There are some good family pictures, one of Mary Button, an heiress, in curious costume. In the *Ch.* is a remarkable double rood-screen of stone, with modern figures of the apostles. The vaulting between the 2 screens supported the rood-loft; an hour-glass in its frame is attached to the pulpit. The chancel was restored 1865.

(f) **Hilmarton Church**, 3 m. N., was restored by the late Mr. Street. The columns separating nave from aisle are E.E.; there is a stone chancel screen and a timber roof, both of the Perp. order. There is a chained Bible of the edition of 1611.

(g) **Highway Church**, 4 m. N.E., rebuilt 1867 by Mr. Butter-

field, at the cost of a former rector, the Hon. C. A. Harris, afterwards Bishop of Gibraltar, preserves a stone rood-screen, the rood-beam, an Early Norm. door, and its font. The hills above the village command fine views.

Thomas Moore, the poet, passed his later years in this neighbourhood, at *Sloperton*, a cottage near Bromham. He was a frequent guest at Bowood. He died at Sloperton, 1852, and is buried in Bromham churchyard.

(h) *Lacock Abbey* is 6 m. W. from Calne, 4 m. N. from Melksham, 3 m. S.E. from Corsham, and 3 m. S. from Chippenham, from which it is most easily visited (for description see Rte. 4). The road to it from Calne runs between the parks of *Spye* and *Bowden*, and commands a fine view to the W. The old gatehouse of Spye is an excellent subject for a sketch, and it is a pleasant walk through it to Bowood Park and Great Wood, distance 5 m.

The country about Calne is pretty. Those who explore it will be charmed by the picturesque irregularity of the cottages.

Proceeding on our route we reach

98 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Corsham** Stat. (Pop. 3931). The town, or rather village, lies $\frac{3}{4}$ m. on the rt.

It was a residence of the Saxon Kings, and afterwards of the earls of Cornwall. Corsham was in 1594 the scene of the murder of

Henry Long, who was shot while sitting at dinner with his brother Sir Walter Long, of South Wraxall, and other friends, by Sir Charles and Sir H. Danvers, of Dauntsey. The cause of the murder was never accurately known. The assassins took refuge at Lord Southampton's, at Titchfield, and were never brought to justice (see *ante*). It was the birthplace of *Sir Richard Blackmore*, physician to William III. (d. 1729), who, according to Leigh Hunt, "composed heaps of dull poetry, versified the Psalms, and, by way of extending the lesson of patience, wrote a paraphrase of the 'Book of Job.'" He was the son of an attorney, and in early life a schoolmaster:—

"By nature formed, by want a pedant made,
Blackmore at first set up the whipping trade,
Next quack commenced."

However, says Cibber, he was "a worthy man and a friend to religion."

The *Ch.* is a fine building, once cruciform, restored by the late Mr. Street, who removed the central tower, and built a new tower and spire to the S. of the original S. transept, now absorbed in the aisle. The nave arcades and N. door are Norm., the chancel Perp. There is a stone screen, elaborately carved, with a canopy of fan-vaulting at the entrance of the fine N., or Tropnell chapel (still kept in repair by the owner of the Weston estate, of which the Tropnells were the former possessors), where are two altar-tombs, one, of great size, to Thomas Tropnell and his wife Agnes, the builders of Great Chalfield manor-house, late in the reign of Henry VI. Lord Methuen erected in 1879

a chapel for himself and family. There is a fine groined S. porch. In the street of the town is a small plain house of the 15th century, if not earlier.

***CORSHAM COURT** (Lord Methuen) is 4 m. W. of Chippenham. The S. front, which has been judiciously preserved through the successive alterations undergone by the rest of the mansion, is a charming example of the Elizabethan style. It was built, Aubrey says, by "Customer Smythe" (an ancestor of the late Lord Strangford), so called from being "farmer of the customs," and bears date 1582. The N. front and other parts of the house, remodelled by Nash, were reconstructed from a good Italian design by Charles Bellamy. The staircase is spacious and stately. In the surrounding park are trees of magnificent growth, particularly cedars and Oriental planes, one of the latter being probably the largest of its kind in England. In 1602 this estate became by purchase the property of the Hungerford family, of Farleigh Castle. Sir Edward Hungerford, commander of the Wilts forces for the Parliament, resided here, and his widow Margaret, daughter and co-heir of William Halliday, Lord Mayor of London, built and endowed in 1672 the almshouse and Free School, adjoining the park, of which hospital *Edward Hasted*, the historian of Kent, was for some years Master, dying 1812. In 1746 Corsham House was purchased by Paul Methuen, Esq. It contains a gallery of very valuable paintings, in great part collected by Sir Paul Methuen, the am-

bassador to Madrid, who died 1757. Sir Paul was son of John Methuen, who was Chancellor of Ireland, ambassador to Portugal, and the framer of the "Methuen Treaty" with that country, who, dying unmarried, bequeathed his London gallery of pictures to his relative, the purchaser of Corsham. They are arranged in the state rooms built by Lancelot, or "Capability" Brown, and include a number of family portraits by *Lely, Kneller, Dobson, C. Jansen, Vandyck, Riley, Reynolds, Gainsborough, Romney*, and others. Amongst the most remarkable are the following:—

Jan Van Eyck (?): Virgin and Child, with Joseph, St. Catherine, and another female saint, a beautiful Flemish painting, probably by an artist younger than Van Eyck. *A. Elzheimer*: (1) St. Paul at Malta, (2) death of Procris, very fine specimens of an exceedingly rare master. *Michael Angelo* (?): the Rape of Ganymede. *Carlo Dolce*: (1) Christ breaking bread, known as the "Salvador Mundi," and corresponding with the picture by the same painter in the Dresden Gallery. (2) Our Saviour at the house of the Pharisee, Mary bathing His feet, said to have been designed by Lud. Cigoli, and painted for the Barberini family at Rome, from whom it was purchased, 1737; the portrait of the Count is introduced as a servant. (3) An angel showing a child the way to heaven. *Bourguignon*: a landscape, with robbers. *Mabuse*: (1) the 3 children of Henry VII., from the collection of Charles I. (2) Margaret, the mother of Henry VII. *Albert Dürer* (?):

the Adoration of the Shepherds, "an early picture by *Lucas Van Leyden*."—*W.** *Giorgione* (?): portrait of Scanderbeg; "an admirable painting by *Holbein*"—*W.* *Lionello Spada*: David with the head of Goliath. *Guido Reni*: the Baptism of our Saviour, from the Duke of Buckingham's collection, 1684. *Rubens*: the Boar-hunt, a well-known picture. *Vandyck*: (1) the Betrayal of our Saviour; "a painting of the earlier time of the master, and of extraordinary effect."—*W.* (2) Portrait of James Stuart, Duke of Richmond and Lennox. (3) Charity. (4) Charles I. on horseback, the size of life. (5) Massacre of the Innocents. *Lesueur*: Pope Clement blessing St. Dionysius, remarkable for depth and purity of feeling, and for powerful colouring. *Carlo Cignani*: the Madonna and Child. *Guercino*: Christ and the Samaritan woman at the well. *Pietro da Cortona*: the Virgin in glory; "a first-rate picture by the master."—*W.* *Albano*: Holy Family, in a silver frame by Alessandro Algardi; the arms of Pope Innocent X. are on the back. *Zuccherò*: A curious portrait of Queen Elizabeth. According to the account handed down, it was painted for her, after the death of Essex, to symbolize her grief at his loss. Two angels are removing the crown from her head, the hour-glass on the table is broken, and Death stands behind.

The original collection at Corsham, said to be one of the oldest private collections in England that have remained nearly perfect,

consists of upwards of 150 pictures, besides the family portraits; and to these about 70 have been added from the gallery of the late Rev. John Sanford, father of Lady Methuen, selected with great judgment during a residence in Florence.

N. Poussin, a landscape; "with the blind giant Orion meeting the rising sun, in order to regain his sight—a picture of the loftiest poetry of sentiment" (*W.*), painted in 1658, and formerly in the possession of Sir Joshua Reynolds. *A. del Sarto*, a portrait. *Guido Reni*, portrait of Paul V. *S. del Piombo*, portrait of Francesco Albizzi, grandly conceived, but poor in colour. *Tintoretto*, portrait of a procurator of St. Mark's. *J. Sustermaans*, portrait of Galileo. *D. da Volterra*, a Mater Dolorosa. *G. da Fabriano*, coronation of the Virgin. *Fiesole*, death of the Virgin. "In richness of composition, and variety of the most refined and beautiful heads, this is one of the most admirable works I know of the master, and at the same time in marvellous preservation."—*W.* *Fra Bartolomeo*, Virgin and Child. *Ubertini*, the History of Joseph, two of the best works of the master, from the Gaddi collection. *Domenichino*, St. Catherine, grand in conception. *Ghirlandajo*, Virgin and Child, a charming picture. *L. Carracci*, the Annunciation. *Pontormo*, Virgin and Child, with St. John. His own portrait. *Fra Filippo Lippi*, the Annunciation. *G. di San Giovanni*, Virgin and Child, with St. John, in fresco, particularly fine. *S. Rosa*, two remarkable landscapes. *Guercino*, the Infant Christ bearing the Cross. *Claude*, landscape, with

* *W.* signifies Waagen's "Art Treasures."

St. John in the desert, on tin. *D. da Volterra*, study for the fresco at Rome, on the back the Crucifixion. *L. Fontana*, S.S. Cecilia and Sebastian. *L. di Credi*, Virgin and Child. *Correggio*, the Fall of Phaëton. Cartoon of an angel in the Cupola at Parma, "graceful in motive, and soft and grand in the forms." — *W. Albano*, landscape with Salmacis and Hermaphrodite. *Raffaelle*, Madonna dell' Impannata.

S. of the stat. are *Monks' Park* and *Neston Park*. *Hartsham Park* (Mrs. Dickson), $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., was built by Wyatt in 1790. *Pickwick Lodge* is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.

[$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of *Corsham Stat.*, on a branch of the Avon, lies the hamlet of **Slaughterford**. **Eaton Down**, the hill immediately above it, in the parish of Yatton, or Eaton, is supposed by Whitaker and others to have been *Ethan-dune*, the scene of the defeat of the Danes by Alfred, placed by others at Edington in Wilts, or Edington on the Polden Hills, in Somerset. In **Bury Wood**, 3 m. further W., in *Colerne* parish, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the Fosseway, are the remains of a strong camp of about 25 acres, secured on S.W. by a deep double rampart, and on the other side by a precipitous ravine and small stream. Within the area is a small subsidiary earthwork of about an acre. A tower erected by Mr. P. Scrope on the hill above Slaughterford commemorates this victory.

Biddeston, 3 m. N. of *Corsham*, consists of two parishes, St. Nicholas, and St. Peter's, each

once remarkable for a church with an ancient and very picturesque bell-turret. St. Nicholas' still remains, with a Norm. turret over the chancel arch, and a S. doorway and font in the same style. It contains the tomb of Edmund, or "Rag," Smith, translator of Longinus, the friend of Steele and Addison, who d. at Hartham House, 1709. St. Peter's was Perp., but was demolished some years since; the bell-turret is preserved in the garden at Castle Combe.

Old Aubrey notes that this district "inclines people to zeal, heretofore nothing but religious houses, now nothing but Quakers and fanatics. A sour woodsere country, and inclines people to contemplation, so that, and the Bible, and ease (for it is now all up with dairy grayzing and cloathing), set their witts a-running and reforming."]

Proceeding on our route, a cutting $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. long and with an average depth of 30 ft., in the cornbrash, forest marble, and great oolite, leads to the mouth of the

Box Tunnel, in length 3199 yards, or about $1\frac{3}{4}$ m., and in places 300 ft. below the surface. The strata dip E., and are all pierced in succession, viz., the great oolite, fuller's earth, inferior oolite, blue marl, and lias limestone. The E. end stands with its natural roof; other parts are lined with brickwork. The cost of the tunnel was upwards of £500,000.

"The *stone quarries* here are

curious. A shaft is sunk through the forest marble and rubble beds, and is then carried in every direction. The galleries are sometimes of great extent, and from 20 to 50 ft. in height. The stone is cut with a saw, and blocks containing 200 cubic ft. are sometimes raised to the surface." There are three quarries in Box Hill; the lower one is subterranean, and of considerable size, having 3 m. of tramway. The space quarried out varies from 12 to 20 ft. between the side-walls or pillars left to support the roof. Into *Boxfield Quarry* the workmen descend by shafts 100 ft. deep. The roof of the quarry is intersected by vertical cracks in a manner that appears extremely dangerous to an observer unacquainted with the nature of the rock; but these fissures have remained in the same condition for 20 years, with the labourers working continually beneath them.

102 m. **Box Stat.** On l. are the *Ch.* and village, the former an E.E., Dec., and Perp. building, with a Perp. tower and spire between the nave and chancel. Mrs. Bowdler, the mother of the editor of the "Family Shakespeare," and herself an authoress of some note, is buried here. Near the vicarage garden was found a Roman pavement. The site is marked by some lofty poplars.

Coleridge once lodged at a grocer's at Box, but was frightened away on discovering a barrel of gunpowder stored below his bedroom.

Within reach of the stat. are

several points of interest. N. are **Cheyney Court**, a mansion of the Spekes of the time of Elizabeth or James I., with fine old chimney-pieces; **Coles Farm**, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.N.E., built in 1645; and the little church of **Ditteridge** (or Ditcheridge), $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., than which few in the neighbourhood will afford more to interest the archæologist, with its Norm. nave, and S. door, the impost curiously sculptured; narrow chancel arch of 13th century, with a bell-gable over it; curious piscina and shelf; and square Norm. font. Mural paintings were discovered c. 1857. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. is **Hazelbury House**, of Elizabethan date; S., **Chapel Plaster**, probably *Pley-stow* (Saxon), playground or village green—"the kirk on the green," a small desecrated chapel (c. 1460), formerly a resting-place of pilgrims to the abbey of Glastonbury, and in the last century the retreat of a notorious highwayman, one John Baxter, hanged on Claverton Down; and 3 m. S., **South Wraxall**, a manor-house of the Longs, described in Rte. 4. 1 m. W. is **Shockerwick** (C. Morley, Esq., M.P.).

2 m. N.W. of Box Stat. is the village of **Colerne**, where a Roman villa was discovered in 1838, and hidden again. The *Ch.*, restored 1875, deserves a visit. The tower is a bold, lofty structure of three stages, of the 15th century; nave, Norm.; N. aisle, Perp. (c. 1450); chancel, E.E. (c. 1240); N. aisle to chancel, Dec. (c. 1280). Notice the rich 14th-century sedilia, and the traces of the original E.E. sedilia and sepulchre behind them. On a

promontory of Colerne Down is **Burywood Camp** (see *ante*).

Bannerdown, where is a British camp, is traditionally said to have received its name of the "holy hill" from having been the place where St. Augustine met the delegates of the Celtic Church. It is, however, only one of many places which lay claim to this distinction.

About 1 m. beyond Box the railway enters the county of Somerset, where the *Avon* comes winding from the beautiful **valley of Claverton** (Rte. 5). The churches of *Batheaston*, *Bathford*, and *Bathampton* will be observed rt. and l. as the traveller is hurried towards

104½ m. **Bathampton** Stat.

107 m. **Bath** Stat. ("Handbook for Somerset").

ROUTE 2.

SWINDON TO CHELTENHAM
BY PURTON, CRICKLADE,
AND MINETY.

(*G. W. Rly., Swindon and Gloucester Branch.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	London.
77¼ m.	Swindon.
81¼ m.	Purton.
85¼ m.	Minety.

77¼ m. (from Paddington) **Swindon** Stat. (Rte. 1).

81¼ m. **Purton** Stat. The village of Purton, or Periton (*i.e.*, Pear-tree enclosure), stands on

rising ground to the l. The *Ch.* is cruciform, remarkable for two steeples, one in the centre surmounted by a stone spire, and at the west end a tower of more ornate character, with open parapet and pinnacles. The only other church of a similar character in this respect is that of Wanborough, 5 m. from Swindon (see Rte. 3). The church is chiefly Perp., but the arcades of the nave have circular pillars of earlier character, and there are a few Dec. windows. The N. transept is larger than the S.; there is good groining under the central tower, and in some windows large remains of fine coloured glass. There are remains of frescoes on the walls in several places. Purton belonged to Malmesbury Abbey till the dissolution. A portion of it came afterwards into the possession of Mr. Henry Hyde, father of Lord Chancellor Clarendon (who was, however, born at Dinton, in South Wilts; see Rte. 12). In 1625 the future Chancellor, then in his 18th year, was here for the recovery of his health, injured by his severe legal studies, when the news of the assassination of the Duke of Buckingham by Felton reached him. Mr. Hyde's house is still standing, and is called the "College Farm." On one of the chimney-pieces are the arms of the Chancellor's grandmother of the Sibell family, a tiger regardant in a mirror. Aubrey records that Anne Hyde, mother of Queens Mary and Anne, was born here. Purton was the seat of the Maskelyne family (whose monuments are in the church), ancestors of Dr. Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal, and projector of the

Nautical Almanac, born in London, 1732, and buried here, 1811. (For the once famous Purton Fair, see Hone's "Everyday Book," vol. ii. pp. 1207, 1379.)

Purton Spa, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the Cricklade road, a spring of bromo-iodated water, has some not undeserved fame as a medicinal spring.

[1. 3 m. S.W. is **Ringsbury**, an irregularly oval earthwork, possibly Roman, and **Restrop**, a picturesque Elizabethan house.

3 m. N. ★ **Cricklade** (Pop. 1676), situated on the *Isis*, $10\frac{1}{2}$ m. from West Crudwell, one of the sources of the Thames, and about as far from St. John's Bridge, near Lechlade, the terminus of the river navigation.

Cricklade is a place of great antiquity, being mentioned in an Anglo-Saxon charter as "creccagelád," or "creg-lád," signifying a "stone ford," from the British "cerrig," stone, and "lád," ford. It has been absurdly derived from a supposed university of Greek philosophers, planted here before the Roman invasion, *quasi* "Greek-lade"; *teste* Drayton:—

"Greeklade, whose great name yet vaunts
that learned tongue,
Where to Great Britain first the sacred
muses sung."—*Polyolbion*.

It stood on the Roman street, which passed through this county from Spene near Newbury to Cirencester. In 905, and again in 1016, it was plundered by the Danes, and it was here that, according to tradition, Bp. Wulstan appeared at the hour of his death to Robert, Bishop of Hereford, to warn him of his end. In 1144 it was held against Stephen by William of Dover, and after he had assumed the cross in

expiation of his crimes by his son Philip, who carried fire and sword all round.

Its churches, Down Ampney, 2 m. N., and the camp of *Castle Hill*, 4 m. S.E., are the only points of interest.

St. Samson's is cruciform, with pinnacled central tower. The very fine lantern is internally decorated with armorial shields, one charged with the "bear and ragged staff" of the earls of Warwick, and it contains a striking clock without external face. The Widhill aisle belongs to the Earl of Radnor. The W. window of the N. aisle is Dec., that of the nave E.E., with plate tracery. Sir Walter Hungerford, in the reign of Henry VI., gave the advowson of this church, with the manor of Abingdon's court, to the Dean and Canons of Salisbury, to maintain a chantry chapel, and assist in keeping in repair the "campanile" of their cathedral. The school adjoining was founded by Robert Jenner, a London goldsmith, in 1652.

In the churchyard is a good cross with canopied niches in its head. This was formerly in the main street.

St. Mary's Church is very small, with a semicircular Norm. arch between the nave and chancel, and a sculptured *cross* in the churchyard.

Down Ampney, the property of Lord St. Germans, is situated on the border of the county, the gardens being partly in Gloucestershire. Between the reigns of Richard II. and Charles I. it was a seat of the Hungerfords, and

before that of the family of Vilers, or Valers. The *great hall*, now a kitchen, bears date 1537; and the *gatehouse*, said to have been built by Sir Anthony Hungerford, is apparently of the age of Henry VIII. Contiguous to the mansion is the *Ch.*, in part the original building, and containing, in the S. transept, the tomb of Sir Nicholas de Vilers, or Valers, who is represented in his armour by the side of his lady. His feet rest upon a lion, and on his arm is a shield bearing the cross of St. George and 5 scallop-shells. The supposed date of this monument is 1294.

N. of Cricklade is the canal which connects the Thames and Severn (completed in 1789), and W. the North Wilts Canal, which joins the Wilts and Berks Canal at Swindon.

$3\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Cricklade is **Ash-ton Keynes**, a picturesque village with the Isis or Thames, crossed by many small bridges, running in front of the houses. There are the remains of four village crosses. The *Ch.* has a W. tower and an excellent Norm. chancel arch of three orders. There is also a Norm. font and some old glass; over the E. arch of the N. aisle and on its W. aspect is a good piece of tabernacling, a vesica in centre with a niche on either side, all empty.]

$85\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Minety** Stat. L. 5 m. W. is *Charlton Park* (Earl of Suffolk and Berkshire), and 7 m. W. the town of *Malmesbury* (Rte. 1).

Minety *Ch.*, late E.E., has a brass to Nicholas Poulett, 1620, nephew to Queen Elizabeth's

"dainty Amias." The family of William Penn were long resident in the parish, holding the office of stewards to the abbots of Malmesbury. Sir W. Penn was born here, his father, according to Aubrey, being a keeper in Braden Forest.

The parish of Minety is partly situated on some outlying acres of Gloucestershire, islanded by Wiltshire. The church and neighbouring houses belong to the hundred of Malmesbury. S. and S.W. of it is the district of *Braden Forest*, which once covered the greater part of North Wiltshire. *Braden Pond*, l. of the road to Malmesbury, is the largest sheet of water in the county, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. by $\frac{1}{2}$ m.

[2 m. N.W. of Minety is **Oaksey** (or Woxy, Wochisie in Domesday Book). A "wuxi" was a wattled sheep-cot, hence perhaps the name, or perhaps more probably from the oaks which grow freely there. The manor belonged to the Fitz Payne family temp. Henry II., then to the Bohuns, earls of Hereford, who are said to have had a castellated house here. The *Ch.* is Perp. and E.E. There is a fair oak screen, part of which has been worked up into stalls for the choir; some of the carving is interesting. There is some old glass in two of the windows. The N. porch has a curious ogee arch, and internally, over the door, is a mutilated figure of the Virgin and Child. Oaksey House occupies the site of an earlier building, said to have been a hunting-lodge of James I.

2 m. W. of Oaksey is **Crudwell**,

4 m. N. of Malmesbury. The name is said to have been derived from an ancient well near the church. It is called Crede-well in Domesday Book, and was given to the abbey of Malmesbury by Ethelwulf (c. 850). It was granted, with other advowsons, to John, Count of Oxford, by Henry VIII., in 1545, for £1719 19s. 11½d. The *Ch.*, which has been freely restored, is Perp. and E.E. In the N. wall of the nave is a 3-light window of old glass; in the centre is the risen Christ, and around were the 7 sacraments of the Catholic Church, 5 of which, Ordination, Baptism, Penance, Matrimony, and Extreme Unction, still remain. There are hagioscopes N. and S. of chancel, and some good carved bench-ends. The S. chapel has a piscina and two lancet windows in its E. wall.]

From Minety the rail runs onward through an undulating country towards the border, near which it extends a branch on the rt. to Cirencester, and then passes into Gloucestershire at the Roman *Fosseway*.

ROUTE 3.

SWINDON TO ANDOVER BY MARLBOROUGH (AVEBURY, SILBURY HILL), SAVERNAKE, COLLINGBOURNE, AND LUDGERSHALL.

(*Midland and S. W. Junction Ry.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Swindon.
6½ m.	Chiseldon.
9¾ m.	Ogbourne.
14¼ m.	Marlborough.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	
	Marlborough.
6 m.	Avebury.
<hr/>	
	Marlborough.
21¾ m.	Grafton.
28½ m.	Ludgershall.
32½ m.	Weyhill.
36¼ m.	Andover.

This rly. forms a link in the system which connects Southampton, *viâ* Cirencester and Cheltenham, with Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and the midland manufacturing districts, as well as with Manchester and Liverpool *viâ* Crewe, and with South Wales *viâ* Gloucester. The first section, from Swindon to Marlborough, was opened July 26th, 1881, and the second section, between Savernake and Andover, at a later date. The connection between these two sections was in the first instance obtained by running powers over a piece of the G.W. line, but this arrangement not working well, the Midland and S.W. Junction Rly. obtained powers to construct a line of its own at Marlborough. This

was opened 1897. The northern section of the line, from Swindon to Andoversford, had been opened some years previously, and will doubtless some day be continued to Cheltenham.

Commencing at Swindon Junction (Rte. 1), the line passes, 3 m., the town of Old Swindon on the S., and leaves on the l. the reservoir of the Wilts and Berks Canal, a sheet of water nearly a mile in length. $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. *Burdrop* (Burythorp) *Park* (Lieutenant-Colonel T. C. P. Calley, J.P.) stands on the first rise of the high chalk downs, which command an extensive view over an open country, embracing the greater part of North Wilts, with Swindon crowning an outlying eminence.

$6\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Chiseldon** Stat. The *Ch.* contains monuments to the Mellishes and the Calleys. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is the very conspicuous strong circular earthwork of **Badbury**, or **Liddington Castle**, an entrenchment, containing $7\frac{3}{4}$ acres within a rampart 40 ft. high. An erroneous theory identifies this fortress with the "Mons Badonicus" of history, where King Arthur, with his Round Table knights, defeated the Saxons under Cerdic, A.D. 520 (see *post*, *Badbury Rings*, Rte. 13).

1 m. N. is the little village of **Liddington**, occupying the summit of a projecting bastion of the chalk downs, insulated on 3 sides by valleys. $\frac{3}{4}$ m. further N. by a rough road over the downs, also crowning a hill, is **Wanborough**,

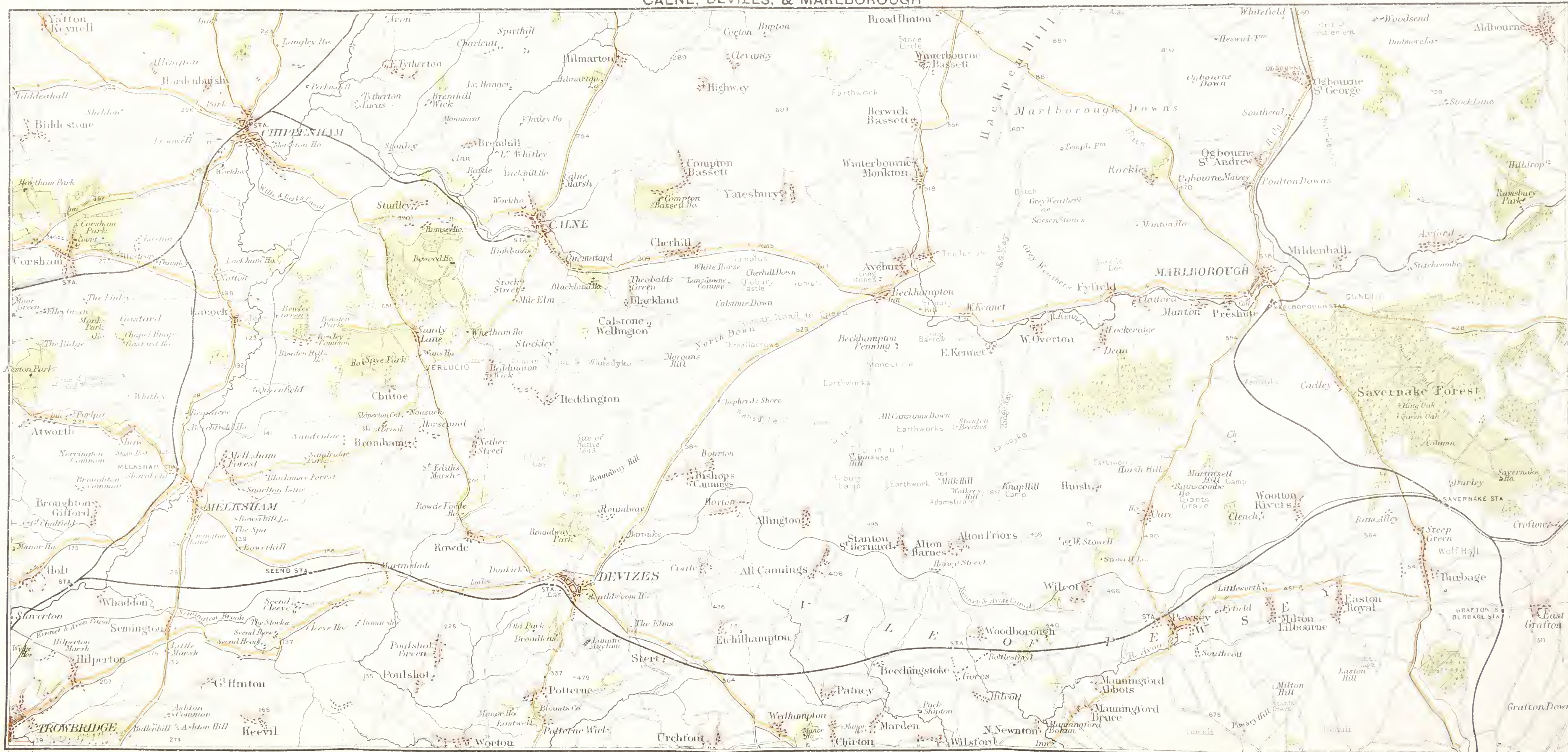
the *burh*, or stronghold, of Woden, formerly the key of Wessex, where

in 591, "after one of the fiercest and bloodiest battles recorded in our annals, Ceawlin was defeated by his nephew Ceolric, and two years after died in exile."—*Dr. Guest*. Here also, in 714, there was a drawn battle between Ine of Wessex and Ceolred of Mercia. The importance of the position is evident from a consideration of the topography. "All the great highways of Wessex converge to a point in the neighbourhood of Wanborough. When posted at Wanborough, the King of Wessex had Roman roads whereby to communicate with Winchester and Old Sarum, the capitals of his two principal shires; while another Roman road came to him from Silchester through the heart of Berkshire, and the Icknield Street brought him the men of Chiltern and of Oxfordshire."

Fairfax's army halted at Wanborough, in their march westward, June 28th, 1645.

Wanborough *Ch.* is remarkable as having 2 steeples arranged as at Purton (see Rte. 2), one with a small spire at the E. end of the nave, and at the W. end a later square tower, erected (as recorded by a tablet affixed to the wall), A.D. 1435, by Thomas Polton and Edith his wife (to whom there is a stone in the S. aisle, giving the date "Anno Virginis"), and their son Philip, Archdeacon of Gloucester, for whom and their 15 other children, and other contributors to the building, the prayers of the faithful are requested. The village tradition, groundless, of course, is to the effect that the church was erected by 2 maiden sisters, who, being unable to agree whether it should have a tower or a spire, decided the point by building both.

CALNE, DEVIZES, & MARLBOROUGH



The rly. continues through a high chalky district, the hills unenclosed and bare of trees with the exception of some beech clumps, the Roman road by Mildenhall (Cunetio) to Winchester (Venta Belgarum) being its companion on the l. to

$9\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Ogbourne St. George** (Okeburn), or Greater Ogbourne, the seat of an alien priory founded, as a cell to Bec in Normandy, by Maud of Wallingford (c. 1149), the property of which passed, on the suppression of alien priories, partly to St. George's Chapel, Windsor, and partly to King's College, Cambridge, and the Charterhouse, London. The *Ch.* has a fine old tower and a brass, 1517, to Thomas Goddard and his wife, in the N. chantry. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. by the Marlborough road is **Ogbourne St. Andrew** (2 m. N. of Marlborough), or Lesser Ogbourne, nestling in a valley walled in by lofty downs, through which runs the little stream of the Og Bourn, emptying itself into the Kennet, just E. of Marlborough. Leland thus notices this tiny watercourse: "About half a mile or I cam into Marlebyri I passid ovar a broke that cam down north-west from the hills, and so ran by suth-east into the streme of Kenet, obut half a mile byneathe Marlebyri."

From Ogbourne Stat. the tourist may diverge across the open downs to the very remarkable and historic hill-fort of

Barbury. This is a large (British) camp, in excellent preservation. It is nearly circular, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. round, and girdled by a

double ring of ditch and rampart, nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in circuit, enclosing $12\frac{1}{4}$ acres; the inner line is very strong, the massive rampart sloping full 50 ft. to the bottom of the ditch. The entrances are E., defended by a half-moon or bar-bican, and W., where the steepness of the hillside rendered any additional defence needless, and the diameter of the area 2000 ft. Torques, spear and arrow heads, coins, etc., dug up within the area of the camp, are preserved in the museum of Marlborough College. There is a pleasant walk along the crest of the hills, commanding wide views, past the "Four-mile Clump" to Marlborough.

Beran Byrig, or Barbury, is considered to have been the scene, in 556, of an obstinate and sanguinary battle between the Britons and the Saxons under Cynric and Ceawlin, resulting in the defeat of the former. This decided the fate of Wiltshire, which became a province of Wessex.

At *Heswick Barn*, midway between Ogbourne and Barbury, is the culminating point of the road, in a country wild and lonely. Around us are the grassy sides of the hills, down which we may trace the long descent to Marlborough, and at a little distance the plantations of *Rockley House* (rt.), formerly the seat of the Baskerville family. The hamlet of **Rockley**, where a little *Ch.* has been built in recent years, was the seat of a preceptory of the Knights Templars, the memory of which is preserved in the *Temple Farm*, to the W. of which lies a stony valley, called

Temple Bottom, containing the remains of a cromlech (broken up within living memory). On the heights of *Hackpen*, overlooking the remains of Avebury, near *Glory Ann*, is a curious concavity, set with stones, called *Baltimore Pond*.

14½ m. the rly. reaches

★ **Marlborough** (Pop. 3012), a quaint old-fashioned town, pleasantly situated in a valley of the chalk range, on the river Kennet and the old Great Bath road. It is an agricultural centre, with a weekly market. The trades carried on are brewing, malting, rope and sacking making, tanning, and wool-stapling. Its prosperity suffered considerably at first by the diversion of traffic caused by the opening of the G.W. main line of rly., before which 42 public conveyances passed through it daily; but it has since revived with the opening of the branch lines. The establishment of the college, which has long ranked among our very first public schools, has materially added to the well-being of the place. The town consists principally of one fine wide street of large and well-built houses, chiefly built after the disastrous fire of April 28th, 1653 (originating in a tanner's yard), which nearly destroyed the whole town, greatly injuring both St. Mary's and St. Peter's Churches, and unhoused 300 families. It again suffered from fire in 1679 and 1690, after which an Act was obtained making it an indictable offence to have a house covered with thatch in the town. Evelyn visited Marlborough the year after the fire, and remarked that, "having been lately

fired, it was new built." In 1668 Pepys visited it, and found it "a pretty fair town for a street or two, on one side the pent houses supported with pillars, which make a fair work." The colonnade mentioned by Pepys extends some distance along the N. side of the street, and gives a character to the town. At the W. end stand *St. Peter's Ch.* and *Marlborough College*, at the E. *St. Mary's Ch.* and the *Town Hall*, rebuilt after the fire of 1653, and again rebuilt in 1793, in which are preserved the Corporation maces, 1652, bearing the arms of the Commonwealth, the town measures, 1670, and the pillory, last used in 1807. On the N. side of the street are several old houses that escaped the fire, with picturesque gables, carved timbers, and scaly coats of tile.

The antiquity of Marlborough is fully proved by the "*Castle Mound*," which, though inferior in size to its colossal neighbour, Silbury Hill, is so similar to it as to be probably a work of the same date. The name, of which "*Merleberg*" is an early form, is popularly, but incorrectly, derived from the enchanter Merlin, who is supposed to be buried beneath the Castle Mound, and the motto of the borough arms runs, "*Tibi nunc sapientis ossa Merlini*," with the mound as a crest. At *Mildenhall* (pronounced *Minall*), 1½ m. E. (where in a dry season the lines of the main streets may be discerned, and where bricks, tiles, pottery, glass, coins, and other objects of Roman date are constantly ploughed up), and the adjoining hill of *Folly Farm*, was the Roman military station *Cunetio*, where were dug up the "Marl-

borough Bucket," preserved in the Stourhead Collection, now at Devizes, and the "Rudge Cup," figured in Gough's "Camden."

The Conqueror had a stronghold at Marlborough, in which he imprisoned several Saxon ecclesiastics, and established a mint. Henry I. kept his Easter here in 1110. The castle was built in this reign by the warlike Bp. Roger of Salisbury, the great castle and church builder of his day. It was held for the Empress Maud by her half-brother, Robert, Earl of Gloucester, and his castellan, John Fitz Gilbert, called by William of Malmesbury "a very firebrand of wickedness." Henry II. granted the castle to his son, John Lackland, who was married here to Isabella, the heiress of the Earl of Gloucester, in 1189. This monarch appears to have been much attached to Marlborough, frequently sojourning here, and making it a repository for his treasures. At the close of his luckless reign it was surrendered by its warden, Hugh de Neville, to Louis of France, but soon opened its gates to the friends of Henry III. This sovereign was often at Marlborough, probably led thither by the ample opportunities for hunting afforded by the royal forests of Savernake and Aldbourn Chase. For this monarch's accommodation considerable additions were made to the castle, with the view of improving its comfort as a residence. A kitchen was built for the King's special use; the Queen's room was to have a chimney; new rooms were built for the priest behind the chapel, which received the addition of a bell-tower. A Florentine architect was employed, and £100 borrowed from the Bishop of Salisbury to pay him. In 1245 all the poor clerks of Oxford were feasted here on the occasion of

the funeral of the King's mother. In 1267 Henry's last Parliament was held here, and passed "the Statute of Marlborough," confirming some of the chief demands of Simon de Montfort. On Henry's death it formed part of the dowry of his widow, Eleanor, on whose decease it was granted by Edward I. to his queen. Edward II. granted it to his favourite Hugh le Despencer in 1308. On his fall Queen Isabella obtained it. In the next reign it was held for the King's sister, Joanna of Scotland, by a succession of wardens. Richard II. granted it to Sir William Scrope, on whose execution in 1399 it reverted to the Crown. From this point the history of the castle becomes obscure, but in the reign of Henry VI. it was held by "the good Duke Humphrey" of Gloucester, and, according to Hall's "Chronicles," on the landing of Queen Margaret and the raising of the Lancastrian forces in the western counties, Edward IV. "removed straght to Marlborow." When and why the castle was dismantled there is no record; but it was still used as an occasional residence by the Seymours, into whose hands it had passed by a grant from the Crown to the Duke of Somerset, temp. Edward VI., from which family it was purchased 1779 by the Marquis of Ailesbury.

Marlborough had its full share in the disasters of the Great Rebellion. Clarendon speaks of it as "the most notoriously disaffected of Wiltshire," remarkable for "the obstinacy and malice of the inhabitants." As there was danger of its cutting off Charles I.'s communications with the west, it was stormed and partly burnt by the Royalists under Wilmot, Dec. 5th, 1642, of which the shot-battered tower of St. Mary's is standing evidence, when John Franklyn,

the popular member, and several of the chief townsmen were sent prisoners to Oxford. The taking of Marlborough marks an epoch in the civil wars as the first garrison taken on either side. The town was sacked by the King's troops; 53 houses were burnt down, "the soldiers inquiring little who were friends or foes"; the market waggons were filled with plunder and driven off in triumph to Oxford, damage to the amount of £50,000 being done to the townspeople. At this time the castle and town were at variance. The former then belonged to Francis, Lord Seymour, of Trowbridge, a determined adherent of Charles I., by whom the old fortress was put in a state of defence to support the royal cause. Lord Seymour's wife and daughter were made prisoners by the Parliamentary leader, who filled the buildings with his musketeers, and occupied the mound as a place of retreat in case the town were taken. In 1643 we find the castle held by Sir Neville Poole for the Parliament. The same year the King and Prince Rupert defeated the Earl of Essex on Aldbourn Chase; and Marlborough Castle twice, in April and November, afforded quarters to Charles I. and his retinue. He was again quartered here in 1644, when he reviewed his army on Aldbourn Chase. During all this time the unlucky town was perpetually suffering from the marauding exploits of Major Dowett, commander of the Devizes troopers, who seems to have looked upon Marlborough as an unfailing object of attack and depredation.

The civil wars over, and the royal line restored, Marlborough Castle opened its doors to Charles II. and his queen, and James, Duke of York, who, in a progress to the west, were received here in great state by the above-mentioned Francis, Lord Seymour, who had

built the house now forming the nucleus of the college. The design is said to have been furnished by Webb, son-in-law to Inigo Jones. After this, wars ended, and the ordinary occupations of a nobleman's family in a large country house began.

The most remarkable mistress of Marlborough during this period was Frances, granddaughter of the first Lord Weymouth, Countess of Hertford, and afterwards Duchess of Somerset, whose energetic interference in behalf of Richard Savage when convicted of murder is recorded in Johnson's "Lives of the Poets." She was a great patroness of the spurious picturesque and bombastic pastoral which characterized the early part of the 18th century. Under her auspices the castle gardens were altered, and, as was supposed, beautified, while nature was twisted into grotesque and hideous forms. The cascades were widened, fresh ruins dispersed over the grounds, a still existing grotto made under the mound, which her ladyship compares with Pope's at Twickenham. Two of the principal heroes of Lady Hertford's entertainments were Dr. Watts, the hymn-writer, and Thomson, author of "The Seasons." To Dr. Watts she writes about the education of her son, Lord Beauchamp, bewailing his inability to learn repetition, a difficulty apparently smoothed away by the kindness of his tutor, who gave him very little of it to do, and "was very favourable to him in his impositions of this kind." Thomson she regarded with such favour that he dedicated to her his poem on Spring, in the following prosaic verses:—

"O Hertford, fitted or to shine in courts
With unaffected grace, or walk the plain
With innocence and meditation joined
In soft assemblage, listen to my song, [all
Which thy own season paints, when nature
Is blooming and benevolent, like thee."

Indeed, it would appear that a great part of "Spring" was composed during a visit to the castle. But "Hertford," as he somewhat familiarly calls her, found that the poet was little better than a drunkard, and that he preferred carousing with her husband to pastoral meditations with herself, and he was not invited a second time to Marlborough. Another of her literary protégées was Elizabeth Rowe, who is said to have written some of her poetry in the grotto under the mound.

Lord Beauchamp, whose repetition was so bad, died young, and his sister, Lady Elizabeth Seymour, married Sir Hugh Smithson, representative, through his mother, of the great house of Percy, and afterwards created Earl of Northumberland.

But the Northumberland family felt no hereditary attachment to the old manor-house of the Seymours. They preferred the Thames and the Aln to the Kennet, and deserted Marlborough for their princely palaces of Alnwick and Sion. We find evidences of its desolation in a series of letters directing a few necessary repairs in the house, forbidding any expense in the garden, and at last agreeing to let it on lease to Mr. Cotterell, who was to open it as an inn. It was sold by Charles, fourth Duke of Rutland, to Lord Ailesbury. The house itself remained an inn for almost another century, and as the "Castle Inn" long maintained the character of one of the best in England. Being on the great Bath road, it received a large number of the chief personages of the land on their way to or from the medicinal springs. In 1767 it was for a time the quarters of the great *Lord Chatham*, who had been attacked by the gout on his road to London. "When he reached the Castle Inn," runs the story, "he stopped,

shut himself up in his room, and remained there some weeks. Everybody who travelled that road was amazed by the number of his attendants. Footmen and grooms, dressed in his family livery, filled the whole inn, though one of the largest in England, and swarmed in the streets of the little town. The truth was that the invalid had insisted that during his stay all the waiters and stable-boys of the castle should wear his livery." It closed its doors finally as an inn January 5th, 1843.

Among the natives of Marlborough are *Henry Sacheverell*, the political divine (b. 1672)—

"the sentinel

Who loudest rang his pulpit 'larum bell"
(*Wordsworth*),

whose father was rector of St. Peter's; *Sir Michael Foster*, a judge of the King's Bench (b. 1689, d. 1763); *Walter Harte*, the poet, friend of Pope, and biographer of Gustavus Adolphus (d. 1774); and John Hughes, a contributor to the "Spectator," "Tatler," etc. (d. 1720). Stephen Duck (d. 1756), the poet, was originally a farm labourer at St. Margaret's, where his rhymes attracted the attention of the Countess of Hertford, who introduced him at court.

In a "Mr. Daniell's house, St. Margaret's," when on a journey from Bath, died *Robert Cecil, Earl of Salisbury*, Lord High Treasurer to James I., 1612.

Marlborough was constituted a suffragan see by Henry VIII., to which Thomas Morley was consecrated 1537. In Queen Mary's reign two husbandmen of this place, John Hunt and Richard White, were presented at Salisbury as heretics, and condemned to be burnt; but the under-sheriff, "Master Michell," says Fuller, "instead of burning the prisoners, burnt the writ, and before it could be renewed both Dr. Geoffrey, the

bloody Chancellor of Salisbury, who procured it, and Queen Mary, were dead, to the miraculous preservation of God's poor servants."

St. Peter's, in which Cardinal Wolsey is said to have been ordained a priest in 1498, is situated at the W. end of the main street, and is a Perp. church of some character, mostly of good stone, but some small portions are of flint. The porch has stone groining, as also has the chancel. The arcades are light, and the windows have good tracery. It was restored in 1864. The tower, 120 ft. high, is Late and situated at the W. of the S. aisle; it has large heavy pinnacles and too much of blank wall. In the chancel is a monument to Sir Nicholas Hyde, his wife and children (1607).

St. Mary's, behind the Town Hall, was much injured by the fire of 1653, and partly rebuilt in a debased style. It was restored in 1844, and the chancel, by Street, was added in 1874. There is a good Norm. doorway at the W. end; the S. aisle has some tolerable Perp. windows, and the tower is of the same character, but very plain. A library is attached to the church.

The church of **Preshute**, just beyond the college, has been partially rebuilt, but preserves its Norm. pillars and sculptured capitals, and a curious piscina. It contains a black basalt font of remarkable size, of the early half of the 12th century, in which, a long-standing tradition mentioned by Camden tells us, King John and other royal personages were baptized. It is by no means

improbable that the font may have been transferred hither from the Chapel of St. Nicholas in Marlborough Castle on the dismantling of that fortress.

A fragment of **St. Margaret's Priory** of White Canons, converted into cottages, is to the l. on leaving the rly. station.

The **Grammar School**, founded by Edward VI., 1550, is a red-brick building overgrown with ivy; among its *alumni* were Dr. Sacheverell and General Picton.

Marlborough College was opened Aug. 26th, 1843, as a school designed to offer an education of the highest class to the sons of clergymen and others, the former receiving special advantages. The idea originated with the Rev. Charles Plater in 1842. The first headmaster was Dr. Wilkinson, afterwards vicar of Melksham (d. 1876). By the original charter, dated 1845, two-thirds of the pupils were to be sons of clergymen; but by a second charter in 1849 the number was reduced to one-half. Under the management of the second headmaster, Dr. Cotton, the lamented Bishop of Calcutta, and his successors, the Rev. G. G. Bradley, afterwards Master of University College, Oxford, and Dean of Westminster, and Dr. Farrar, now Dean of Canterbury, as well as its present headmaster, it has gained a very high place among the educational establishments of the country. The nucleus of the college is formed by Lord Seymour's old brick house, afterwards the "Castle Inn," now known as "C" House (see *ante*); other blocks of build-

ings called after other letters of the alphabet have been added in the same style, forming 3 sides of an irregular quadrangle. The "Bradleian," erected as a testimonial to Dean Bradley, houses the classes for art-teaching, and its hall is used for examinations, lectures, concerts, etc. The "Adderly Library," founded 1848, is placed in the old "C" house. The dining-hall contains portraits of the successive headmasters. In 1848 a chapel from Blore's designs was consecrated, which contains memorial windows to Bp. Cotton and others, masters and scholars. The principal entrance to the college is from the Bath road, and beyond it is seen the figure of a *white horse* in a trotting attitude, cut on the chalky slope of the valley. It is the work of no Celt or Saxon, but of the schoolboys of one Mr. Greasley in 1804, who had seen the white horses of Cherhill and Bratton.

EXCURSIONS.

The neighbourhood of Marlborough contains sufficient objects of interest to engage the attention of the traveller for 3 or 4 days. The views from the clumps of fir-trees on the Common and the Granham Hill are wide and fine. The following places are specially worthy of a visit. (1) The Cromlech, known as the *Devil's Den*, the gigantic mound of *Silbury Hill*, and the remains of the wonderful earthwork and megalithic monument of Avebury; (2) Martensell Hill and the Wansdyke; (3) Savernake Forest; (4) Littlecote.

Before taking either of the first

two excursions, the pedestrian will find it a great advantage to provide himself with sheet 266 of the one-inch Ordnance Survey ("Marlborough"), which will assist him greatly in making out the objects mentioned, and others of lesser archæological interest in the district.

(a) The **Devil's Den, Avebury**, and **Silbury Hill** may be taken in a day's excursion from Marlborough. The distance to Avebury is 6 m. The expedition by carriage usually takes about 3 hours; but by far the best way of seeing the remains is on foot.

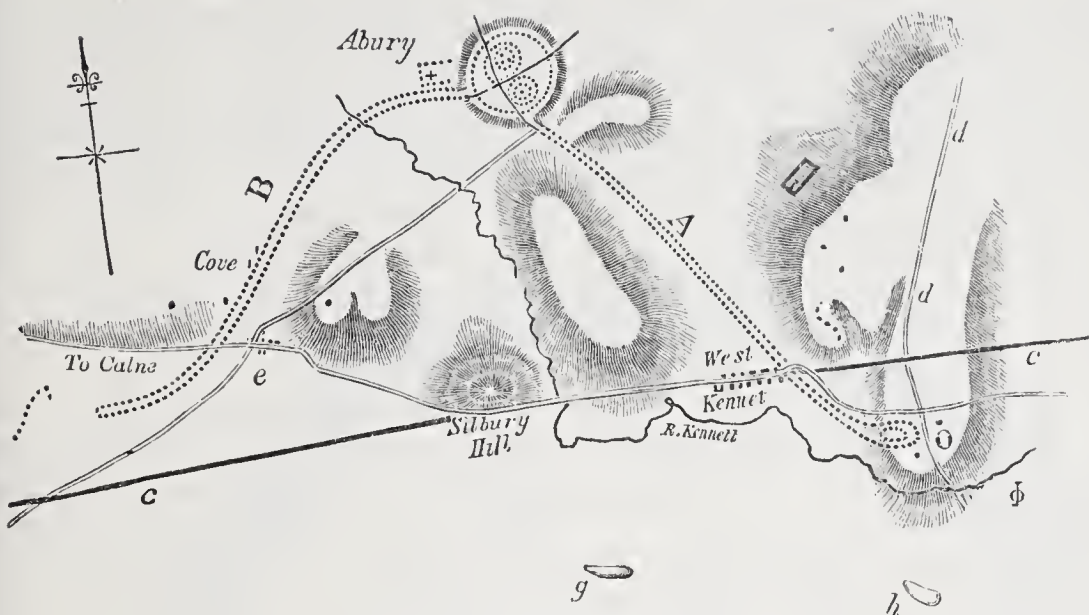
Leaving the town by the Devizes road, with the Kennet on the l., we pass Preshute, and at 1 m. reach Manton. At $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. we have the entrance to **Clatford Bottom** on our rt. through a gate opposite the farmhouse of Clatford; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. up this winding grass-clad combe is the cyst or sepulchre called the **Devil's Den**. It is 8 ft. 9 in. high, consisting of a stone slab 9 ft. by 8 ft., originally resting on 4 uprights, of which only one remains in exact position. A little of the once-enveloping mound exists. Proceeding up the valley, the traveller will soon find himself among the "Greywethers," boulders of *sarsen*, or siliceous sandstone, which extend for upwards of a mile, and present one of the most remarkable geological phenomena in the country. They are believed by Mr. Prestwich to be consolidated portions of the sands and quartz of the plastic clay series. He will thread this labyrinth of stones, and having passed a ride from the Marlborough racecourse, which crosses the vale obliquely,

ascend Overton Hill on the l., and proceed direct for Avebury. The vantage-ground of this hill will afford him an excellent view not only of the surrounding country, but of the interesting spot he is approaching. He will look upon an extensive basin, containing in the centre, within a grassy ring or rampart, the remains of the great circles of stones and the modern village of Avebury, and towards the S., upon the culminating ridge of the Marlborough downs, sweeping from Bowood to Savernake, and scored by a long waved line marking the course of the Belgic boundary, the *Wansdyke*.

The village of * ★ **AVEBURY** or *Abury*, "like some beautiful parasite, has grown up at the expense and in the midst of the ancient temple" (*Sir J. Lubbock*), and is chiefly built with the fragments of the huge stone circles, which have been used as a quarry for centuries. It did "as much surpass Stonehenge as a cathedral doth a parish church" in Aubrey's days, but more than 650 stones have been destroyed, and even the walls and roads have been formed of their ruins. The village occupies an area, once partitioned into circular spaces by the enormous stones, but now cut into quadrants by roads from the four cardinal points, and still girt by the original earthen mound and inner ditch. Outside the mound, at a distance of $\frac{1}{2}$ m., are scattered British barrows, many of large size and sharp symmetrical outline.

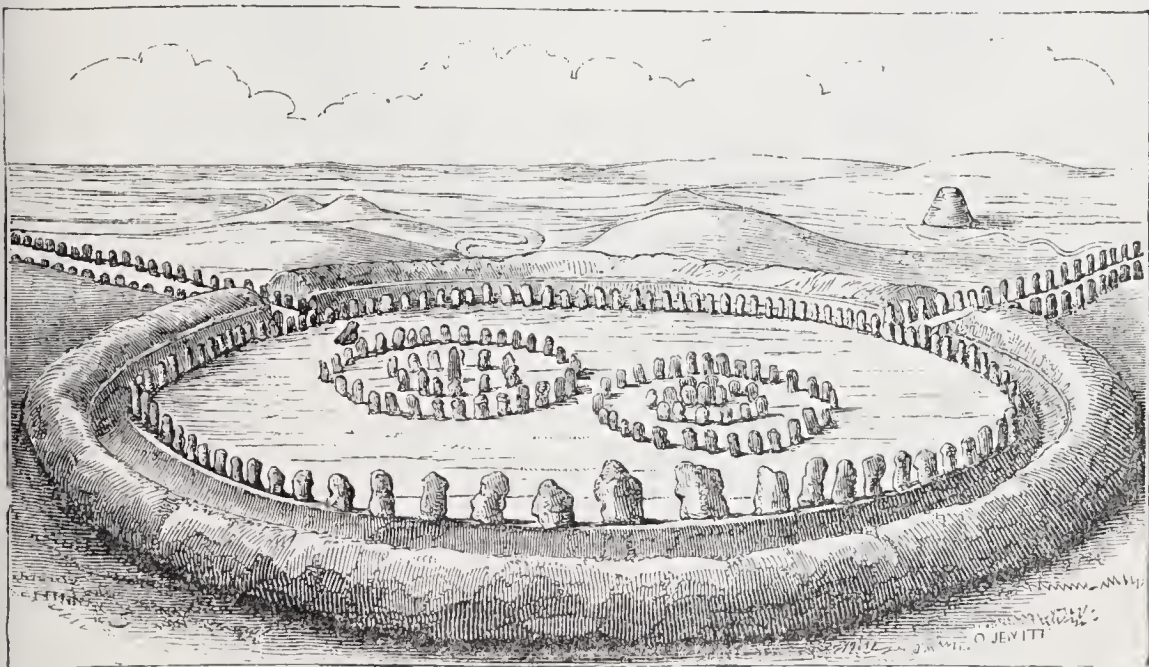
The visitor should climb the earthen rampart to obtain a gene-

ral view of Avebury and its remains. The scene is one of great singularity; but the area within the earthwork is now so covered by the village that it is difficult, even with a plan of the ancient appearance of the place in one's hands, to understand its original arrangements. But if the visitor will suppose for a moment every house and hedge, tree and wall, etc., to be effaced he may perhaps be able to form a general notion of it. There was in the first place an enormous earthen rampart about 40 ft. high from the bottom of the fosse, 4442 ft. in circumference, circular, but not a perfect circle. Within this is a deep fosse, and the fosse being on the inner side of the rampart, it is at once clear that it was no military work. This rampart and fosse enclosed a level area of 28 acres 27 perches. Immediately on the inner margin of the fosse, forming a kind of coronet all round the level area, was a row of unhewn stones, supposed to have been 100 in number, placed 27 ft. apart. Of these 9 only are now erect, 10 are prostrate, and 16 are known to be buried. A number of pits mark the sites of stones. The dimensions of 2 stones standing near the road are—the one 13 ft. high by 16 ft. wide and 4 ft. thick; the other 13 ft. 10 in. high, 18 ft. wide, and 5 ft. 6 in. thick. The longer diameter of the circle is 1260 ft., the shorter diameter 1170 ft. Within the large outer circle or oval were 2 smaller ones, each originally composed of 30 stones. Of the southern of these circles 2 stones remain erect, 3 prostrate; of the northern circle 2 stones are erect and 2 prostrate,



Plan of AVEBURY and surrounding country.

- A. The Kennet Avenue of Stones, leading to Overton Circle, O.
 B. Dr. Stukeley's supposed Avenue to Beckhampton. No trace remains.
 cc. Roman Road. dd. British Trackway. e. Beckhampton.
 g. West Kennet Long Barrow. h. East Kennet Long Barrow.



AVEBURY (from the North) with Silbury in the distance. Its general appearance in the original state, as conjectured.

N.B.—The Circles, both Earthwork and Stones, were much more irregular in shape than here represented. For the more exact form, see the other Plans.

and one known to be buried. Within each of these 2 circles was probably a concentric circle of 12 stones, of which there were indications. Within the northern, in its centre, were 3 large stones which formed an adytum or cove; of these 2 remain, the taller 17 ft. high, 7 ft. 7 in. wide, and 2 ft. 4 in. thick. At the present time, out of the 650 great stones, there are within the entire enclosure only 15 stones remaining upright, 16 recumbent, and 18 known to be buried.

The circular earthwork, with the circles of upright stones enclosed by it, was approached (according to Dr. Stukeley's fanciful and now exploded idea) from the S.W. and S.E. by a double avenue of upright blocks, each about 72 ft. wide and consisting of 200 stones placed in pairs at intervals of about 48 ft., and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, curving so as to give the idea of a serpent. That from the S.W. ended as he supposed (though for this there is really no evidence) at Beckhampton in a single stone, that from the S.E. in an oval group on Overton Hill (more probably a distinct monument), these two extremities representing, according to Stukeley, the tail and head of his hypothetical serpent, of which the avenue formed the body, transfixing the great central circle. The serpent theory is now completely abandoned. Stukeley gives engravings of the stones as they remained in 1724, and mentions when portions were removed. Of the S.W. avenue, towards West Kennet, 15 stones remain. Two near Beckhampton, in a field to the N. of the road, of larger dimen-

sions than the stones of the S.W. avenue (one of them is 16 ft. high by as many broad and $3\frac{1}{2}$ thick), are the sole ground on which Stukeley built his notion of a S.E. avenue. In Aubrey's time there were 3 stones called the "Devil's Quoits." They are now known as the "Long Stones," and probably formed part of a circle.

The stones of which the circles and avenues are composed are called *sarsens*. They are found in the immediate neighbourhood. The weight of the largest stone at Avebury is about 62 tons; one of the stones now destroyed weighed 90 tons.

The principal groups of stones now to be seen are (1) those in a field on the rt. of the road, passing through the village as approached from West Kennet, and (2) some others of huge size, which should not be missed, in a farmyard near the inn.

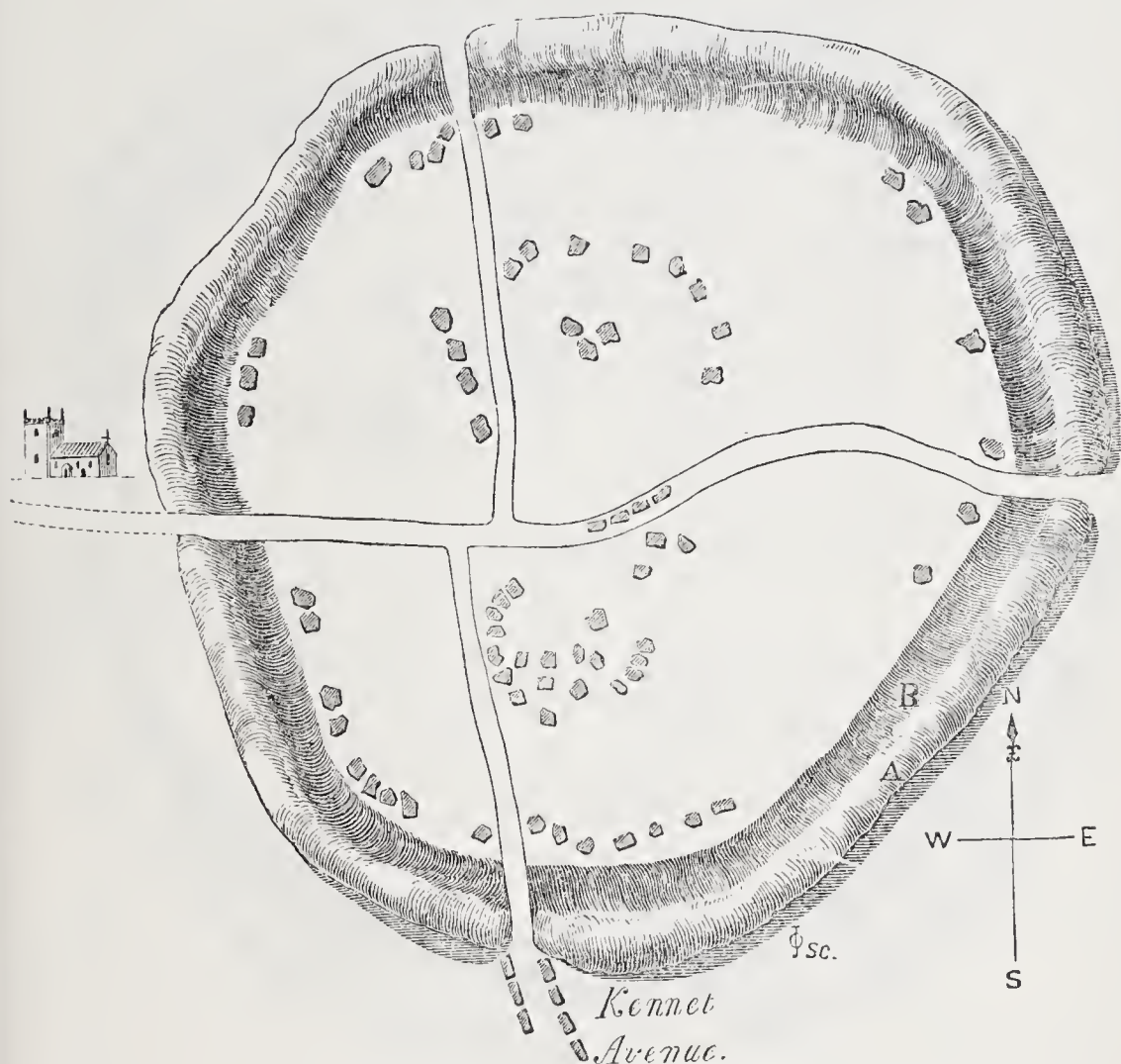
Wansdyke passes to the S. of Avebury, and approaches within 4 m. of it, but Avebury is outside this earthwork, for a further account of which see p. 167.

Many are the theories respecting Avebury. There can be little doubt that it dates from a period anterior to the Roman conquest of Britain, and belongs to an earlier period even than Stonehenge, since its stones are unhewn, whilst those of the latter are worked.

The discoveries of similar remains in India appear to throw a sidelight upon its object and the mode of its formation.

The following passage is from Dr. Hooker's address to the British Association, August, 1868 (see also Colonel Yule's memoir,

“Bengal Asiatic Journal,” 1844): which, when heated, cold water is run, which causes the rock to fissure along the groove. The tribe of semi-savages who habitually erect dolmens, menhirs, cysts, and cromlechs, almost as gigantic mechanical aids used in transporting and erecting the block.



AVEBURY. The oldest known Plan : made by JOHN AUBREY, about A.D. 1660.

Showing the irregularly Circular Earthwork and Ditch ; the arrangement of the Large Stones within ; and *one* Avenue only of Stones leading to Kennet.

A. The earthen vallum.

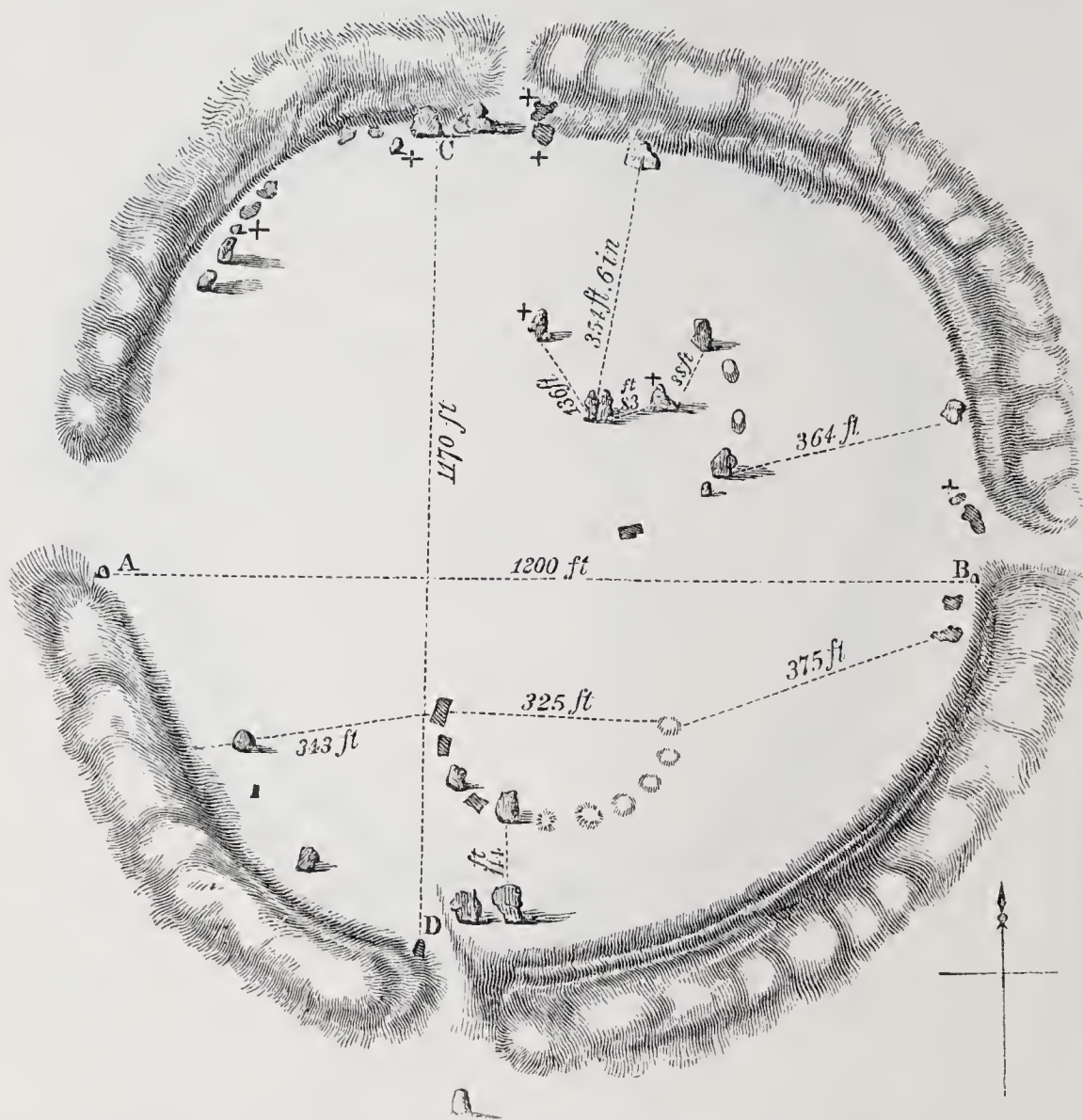
B. The ditch inside the vallum.

in their proportions and very similar in appearance and construction to the so-called druidical remains of Western Europe. . . . The method of removing the blocks is by cutting grooves, along which fires are lit, into

The objects of their erection are sepulture, marking spots where public events have occurred, and the like. The Khasian word for a stone, ‘man,’ is the same as commonly occurs in names of their villages and places, as the

word 'maen' does in those of the words "along the stone row" Brittany, Wales, Cornwall, etc." (Kennet Avenue), "thence to the

It is somewhat remarkable that burial-places" (? Avebury Circle). there is no historical account Like other such constructions,



AVEBURY. As surveyed by Sir R. C. HOARE, A.D. 1812.
[Roads and houses being omitted.]

The Area contains 28 acres and 27 perches. The circumference on the ridge of the vallum, 4442 feet. The seven stones marked + were removed between 1819 and 1857.

whatsoever of this great work, it is often called a "druidical temple," but there is no evidence and the only allusion to it is the that the Druids ever made use of one discovered by J. M. Kemble such places or had anything to in the "Codex Ævi Saxonici" in say to their erection.

The earliest existing notice of Avebury is in the writings of John Aubrey, the Wiltshire antiquary, who came upon it unexpectedly whilst hunting over the down in 1648 with Mr. Charles Seymour, of Marlborough Castle House. He was at that time only 22 years of age, but had been from a boy observant of the antiquities of his native county. He was so much struck with his discovery, that he left his hounds to follow their game and paused to pursue his own. In his MS. work called "*Monumenta Britannica*" (now in the Bodleian Library, Oxford) he has left an interesting plan and description of it as it appeared to him at that time.

Aubrey's account, reported by Lord Brouncker and Dr. Charlton to Charles II., induced the King to halt at Marlborough on his way to Bath, accompanied by the Duke of York, under his guidance. Pepys also came upon it and Silbury unexpectedly on one of his journeys on horseback to Bath, and describes it in his diary, June 15th, 1668, as "a place trenched in, like Old Sarum almost, with great stones pitched in it, some bigger than those at Stonage in figure, to my great admiration"; he was told "that most people of learning coming by do come and view them, and that the King did so."

Avebury Church stands to the W., just outside the huge earthen rampart, which has been levelled at this point.

It was originally a very rude, aisleless building of Saxon or Early Norm. date, to which Norm. aisles were added (c. 1112), and a

very good Perp. tower. In October, 1880, two of the original windows were discovered towards the W. end. They had evidently been closed with shutters, without glazing. The Norm. arcade was replaced by a semi-classical one in 1811. The chancel was rebuilt 1879, preserving the chancel arch (c. 1280). The early porch, the Norm. doorway, the large squints, the rood-loft, coloured and gilt, above all, the very curious Norm. tub-font, deserve notice. **Avebury House**, the Elizabethan manor-house of the Dunches, stands close to the church among fine hills, with a very picturesque gabled front. The circular dove-cot remains. Avebury was a cell of St. George Boscherville in Normandy, founded here in 1110.

Silbury Hill rises from the valley of the Kennet, about a mile S.S.E. of Avebury Church, close to the Roman road from Bath to Marlborough and to its modern successor, the once thronged but now almost deserted Great Bath road, which here coincides with it. It has been warmly debated whether Silbury is posterior or anterior to the Roman occupation of Britain; but there can be no reasonable doubt that it stands on the Roman road, which here makes a slight, deviation from the straight line to avoid the hill. Professor Tyndall remarks that Silbury Hill afforded "a splendid landmark to the Roman engineers," the Roman road from "*Cunetio*" to "*Aquæ Solis*" being carried in a straight line to the base of the hill, and there slightly deflected to avoid it. The earlier date is supported

by Sir John Lubbock, and is now practically conceded by all antiquaries. During the autumn of 1867 the exact course of the ancient road was ascertained by removing the surface of the ground in the field above the turnpike road S. of the hill, and the question was set at rest, though the actual date of the monument remains as deeply shrouded in mystery as ever.

This gigantic mound is probably the largest artificial hill in Europe, and if we may derive its name from the A.-S. *sel*, "noble," and *burh*, "stronghold," its proportions accord completely with its designation. Others have identified the first syllable with the goddess "Sul Minerva," who presided over the hot springs of Bath, "Aquæ Sulis," or with a mythical King Seale buried beneath it. "The mount cast hard by," says Pepys, "is called Selbury, from one King Seall, buried there, as tradition says." The shape of Silbury is a truncated cone, 1657 ft. in circumference at the base, which occupies upwards of 5 acres, with a diameter of 552 ft. A circle of *sarsen* stones, 3 or 4 ft. across, set at intervals of about 18 ft., surrounded the mound at its bottom, but few of these are now visible. Its sides slope regularly upwards at an angle of 30°. Its height is 170 ft., and the diameter of the circular area of its summit 104 ft. Its cubical volume is computed at nearly 468,170 solid yards of earth. The object of this enormous work has been a frequent subject of discussion, and investigations have been undertaken with the object of determining whether the ordinary view, which

considers it to be a sepulchral mound raised over some mighty hero of old time, is correct. In 1777 the hill was opened from the top by Cornish miners, under the direction of the then Duke of Northumberland and Colonel Drax, and again in 1849, under the superintendence of Dr. Merewether, Dean of Hereford, when the mount was tunnelled at its base, and a space of 12 ft. in diameter in the very centre of the mass examined. On neither occasion was any trace of interment discovered. But the apertures hitherto made have been so insignificant compared with the size of the hill, that the question cannot be considered to have been settled by these excavations. As with Avebury, we are completely destitute of any information as to when, by whom, and for what purpose, it was formed.

The visitor should ascend to the top for a view, and call to mind Southey's "Inscription for a Tablet":—

"This mound, in some remote and dateless
day
Reared o'er a chieftain of the age of hills,
May here detain thee, traveller, from thy
road
Not idly lingering. In his narrow house
Some warrior sleeps below, whose gallant
deeds
Haply at many a solemn festival
The Scald hath sung; but perished is the
song
Of praise as o'er these bleak and barren
downs
The wind that passes, and is heard no
more.
Go, traveller, and remember, when the
pomp
Of earthly glory fades, that one good
deed
Unseen, unheard, unnoted by mankind,
Lives in the eternal register of Heaven."

Bristol, 1796.

[PLACES NEAR AVEBURY.

Yatesbury, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W., on the broad plateau of the Marlborough downs, 536 ft. above the sea. The *Ch.* has a good Perp. tower, Trans. arcade, fine Norm. font, and rood stair-turret. The chancel and screen are modern, 1854. One of the nave windows contains some roundels of E.E. glass. There is a fine yew in the churchyard. The parish contains many sepulchral barrows, which have yielded the usual objects. Dec. 30th, 1859, the village was visited by a tornado of astonishing violence.

Winterbourne Monkton, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. The *Ch.*, carefully restored by Butterfield, 1878, has a good Norm. font, and on the W. side of the chancel arch a reredos of 3 rude shallow niches and a piscina mark the place of 2 side altars.

Berwick Bassett, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N., has a good E.E. font, a rood-screen and rood-beam, Perp., and a small brass, 1427, to a priest, William Bayly, who left 100s. to the church.]

The turnpike road from Marlborough passes on l. the villages of **Fyfield** (where the *Ch.*, with a pinnacled tower, is very picturesquely situated among tall elms, with a lych-gate in the churchyard, and is worth a visit. The font is Norm., with intersecting arches); **West Overton** (the *Ch.*, conspicuously crowning a hill, was rebuilt in 1878, preserving most of the old windows, and using the chancel arch as the entrance to the organ-chamber); **East Kennet** and **West Kennet**, devoted to the

brewing and storing of the celebrated West Kennet ale, where the river Kennet turns N. at right angles to its former course, parallel to which the road to Avebury diverges from the main road. Near West Kennet is the **Long Barrow**, a tumulus of considerable interest, 336 ft. long by 40 ft. broad at the W. end, and 75 ft. at E. end. The walls of the chamber are formed of six great slabs of stone, opening into a passage. When opened, it contained two human skeletons in a sitting posture, and two laid horizontally. Shortly after passing Fyfield, a valley to the rt. of the road will be noticed completely filled with sarsen stone or "grey-wethers." "They look like a river of stone, if I may so speak, as if some mighty flood had rolled them along down the valley, and there left them behind as it sank."—*Kingsley*. The few survivors of the giants of the eastern avenue will be seen, rt., at West Kennet. "Tens of thousands of sarsen stones," writes Dean Merewether, are "still scattered over these hills and their valleys, some having evidently formed 'cistvaens' with the gallery of approach to the chamber, some cromlechs, some avenues of approach to consecrated spots, some circles round the sepulchral deposits, some lines of demarcation." It is to be regretted that the number of these interesting relics of a former age is being rapidly diminished by the requirements of the builder. The rly. bridge at Windsor is built with stone from Clatford Bottom. At *Beckhampton* is an inn, the Waggon and Horses, where refreshment may be had.

(b) The **Wansdyke** (fully described on p. 167) is a great earthwork, with a fosse on its northern aspect, which stretches across the country for nearly 20 m., from the neighbourhood of Bath to that of Marlborough. It can be reached (1) by walking to the top of Martensell Hill, on the Pewsey road, where there is an extensive camp. The Wansdyke crosses the road beyond the first turning on the rt. from Marlborough. Or (2) it may be reached by following the Ridgeway as it passes S. from East Kennet, leaving the East Kennet Long Barrow on the l., and cuts straight across the Wansdyke, which can be followed E. or W. Numerous earthworks lie N. and S. of it, or (3) as described below (c). The pedestrian will again find the Ordnance Map of the greatest service.

(c) *Walk from Marlborough to Devizes over the Downs.* A person walking from Marlborough to Devizes can pursue a delightful route along the Wansdyke. He will proceed by the Calne road as far as Fyfield (some 2 m.), there turn to the l. (by the Fighting Cocks) to the churchless village of **Lockeridge**, situated in a bottom among masses of sandstone, and thence direct his way to the summit of the downs. 4 m. from Lockeridge he will reach the dyke, about 1 m. E. of St. Anne's Hill, from which a valley running N.E. contains 2 rows of sarsen stones of large size, standing 3 or 4 feet out of the ground. In the same valley, more to the S., are the remains of a cistvaen, with the larger chamber and passage

traceable; another monument of the same kind is on the top of the hill to the S.E. These are locally known as the **Hares' Holes**. From this point he can follow the dyke N.W., unchecked by hedge or other impediment, to **Shepherd's Shore**, a lone house, formerly an inn, on the Devizes and Marlborough road, or farther to Morgan's Hill, the heights N. of **Roundway Down**, the scene of the rout of Waller in 1643. He will then quit it and turn S. over Roundway to Devizes; or if bound for Calne, he may follow the Wansdyke till it ends near a fir-wood, where it is crossed by a white chalk road, by turning down which, to the rt. (N.), he can descend by *Blackland* to *Calne*. Beyond this point, W., the dyke is destroyed for a long distance, but reappears at Englishcombe, above Bath.

(d) **Savernake Forest**, Drayton's "shadeful Savernake," and *Tottenham Park*, the domain of the Marquis of Ailesbury, occupy a district 16 m. in circumference E. of Marlborough. No traveller should neglect an opportunity of visiting this sylvan tract, thrown freely open to all, which still displays a magnificence of forest scenery peculiarly attractive to the artist, who, among its majestic oaks and graceful beeches, may realise the paintings of a Gainsborough or Hobbema. It is said to be the only forest in this country in the possession of a subject. It formed part of the jointure of Queen Eleanor, and was in after-times granted to the family of Seymour, dukes of Somerset, from whom, in 1676,

it passed by marriage to the Bruces. The objects of chief interest are the shattered remnants of the *King Oak*, or the *Duke's Vaunt*, an oak of wonderful antiquity, so called from Protector Somerset; the *Creeping Oak*, behind the keeper's lodge, with a huge limb stretched along the ground; the *avenue of beech*, which is 4 m. long, and probably the finest in the kingdom; in the spring the gorgeous banks of rhododendron and azalea; and *Savernake Forest House*, formerly called *Tottenham House*, which is accessible to the stranger during the absence of the family. The train may be taken to Savernake Stat., and then a delightful walk of some 5 or 6 m. may be enjoyed through the park to Marlborough. On entering the park gates go straight on towards the great avenue, gaining in passing on the right a view of Tottenham House, and on the left a view of the Ailesbury Column; cross the avenue and bear off across the turf a little to the right to the **Church of St. Catherine**. The spire will serve as a sufficient guide till the church itself comes into view. Return to the avenue, and continue down it till you reach the open space opposite the ruins of Savernake Lodge; walk down the open grassy glade to the left as far as you feel inclined, for the sake of seeing several fine oaks which grow here. By keeping parallel to the avenue the **King Oak** may be reached without returning to it, but if there is thought to be any risk of losing the way, come back to the avenue and follow it on a little further to the **Eight Walks**; then take the Green Drive to the left, which is

nearest to the main avenue, and, after examining the glades about the *King Oak*, make your way out of the park by the gate at the end of the main avenue, and go down the hill to Marlborough.

Savernake may also be conveniently visited from Marlborough. It is 2 m. from Marlborough to the entrance of the forest; 3 to the Eight Walks, from which the King Oak is distant $\frac{1}{4}$ m.; and 6 to Savernake Forest House. The traveller will proceed by the Hungerford road, and in 1 m. will be climbing *Forest Hill*, with Marlborough and the vale of the Kennet before him, and to the l. on Folly Farm the site of the Roman station of *Cunetio*. After a steep ascent he will enter the forest, and turn rt. to the **Grand Avenue** of beeches, which runs in a straight line by the **Eight Walks** to the house. It is of considerable width, and bordered by beech-trees in thick-set ranks, their towering trunks and interlacing limbs forming a vista of singular grandeur and beauty. In about a mile its continuity is interrupted by an open space; and here, from the centre of a clump of firs, the *Eight Walks* diverge to as many points of the compass, 5 leading over grass to distant forest glades, 1 S.E. to the ruins of *Savernake Lodge* (burned down March 9th, 1861), and 2 formed by the avenue, whose course is N. and S. The walk, running S.W., will lead you to the **King Oak**, a huge hollow trunk, 24 ft. in circumference, fast hastening to its ruin. Around are grouped many other noble old trees, a stalwart band, arrayed like the monarch in the elegant drapery of moss

and fern. Close to the King stands the *Round House*, a spacious shed, where the visitor may find a welcome shelter. He can regain the avenue by another path, and proceed to **Tottenham House**. This is a large plain building, originally designed as a hunting-seat, and erected on the site of a palace of the Seymours, injured in the Great Rebellion. The view from the interior extends over a wide and noble domain. It was begun in 1781 by Thomas Bruce, first earl of Ailesbury, and completed by a former marquis. The N. front commands the **Ailesbury Column**, through a long perspective formed by detached masses of elm and beech, the S. front a vista cut through woods over a double line of hills, the farthest of which must be 4 m. distant. The column crowns a lofty height. It was erected in 1781 by Thomas Bruce, first earl, commemorating the recovery of George III. and various other circumstances.

The Marlborough troop of yeomanry, originally raised in 1794 by the Marquis of Ailesbury, was nicknamed "The Potato Choppers," from the custom of training the cavalry to the use of the broadsword by putting potatoes on sticks in one of the rides of Savernake Forest, to be cut off as they rode by at full gallop.

A pleasing *Ch.*, called **Christ Church**, with parsonage-house and school, was built in the forest by the late Marquis of Ailesbury, as well as the very beautiful and richly ornamented **St. Catherine's**, from T. H. Wyatt's designs, by the Marchioness, in memory of her mo-

ther, the Countess of Pembroke, about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from the house.

(e) To **Ramsbury** and **Littlecote** (see Rte. 5).

Running mainly in chalk cuttings, the Midland and S.W. Junction Rly. reaches 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. ***Savernake Stat.**, and thence

21 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Grafton Stat.** The *Ch.* of East Grafton was built by Ferrey in 1844 in the Norm. style, chiefly at the expense of the then Marquis of Ailesbury. The painted glass in the chancel is by Willement. In this parish and close to the line are the remains of Wulfall (see p. 164). From Grafton extend the exposed uplands of Collingbourn Heath, and the rly. reaches at

26 m. **Collingbourn Stat.** The two little villages of **Collingbourn Kingston** and **Collingbourn Ducis**, connected by the hamlet of Collingbourn Sutton (South Town), lie about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. apart on the little streamlet from which they derive their name.

Collingbourn Kingston has an E.E. *Ch.*, of flint and stone, with Perp. additions, restored in 1862, containing an elaborate canopied monument to Sir Gilbert Pile, of Collingbourn, and his wife, 1626, and a brass to Constance Darell, 1495. It is a scattered village, with some picturesque cottages of red brick and flint ornamentally worked. *John Norris*, the mystical divine, known for combating the opinions of Dodwell and Locke, was born at the parsonage, 1657, and died at the rectory of Bemerton, 1711.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is **Collingbourn Ducis**, so called from having belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster, granted by Henry VIII. to Protector Somerset, and regranted by Elizabeth to the Earl of Hertford. In the *Ch.*, also of flint and stone, with a square embattled tower, is a small brass to Edward St. Maur, son of the Earl of Hertford (d. 1631), with a curious inscription.

3 m. E. is the village of **Chute**, bearing the name of a forest once extending from Savernake deep into Hampshire. *Conholt Park* is the seat of G. Knowles, Esq., J.P.; *Chute Lodge*, of W. H. Fowle, Esq., J.P.

[$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. in the open country, over which the eye ranges freely, is **★East Everley**, traditionally the residence of King Ine, whose hunting-lodge is said to have stood near the encampment of Sidbury. The *Ch.* was rebuilt in 1813, but retains the Trans-Norm. font. Everley was a market town in comparatively modern times. It stands on the old road from Marlborough to Salisbury, which ran most of the way over the turf. The lordship belonged to the Duchy of Lancaster, and was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Ralph Sadleir, afterwards falconer to Queen Elizabeth (d. 1587), a worthy knight, appointed to guard the unfortunate Queen of Scots at Tutbury, but so fond of hawking that he could not refrain from it, or from allowing his prisoner to participate in the amusement, for which he was severely reprimanded. His portrait still hangs on the walls of

Everley Manor (F. Alexander,

Esq., J.P.), probably built by Sir R. Sadleir, formerly the home of the Sir Francis D. Astley whose electioneering exploits in 1818 occupy a conspicuous place in the annals of Wiltshire, and now the property of Sir F. E. G. Astley Corbett, Bart., containing some good pictures, one, life-size, of Sir F. D. Astley and Lady Astley with her horse and dog, by Sir J. Reynolds. Another represents two duels fought on horseback by Sir John de Astley in the reign of Henry VI.: one with a Frenchman in the street of St. Antoine in Paris, the other with a knight of Arragon in Smithfield. The house was much injured by fire (1881), but the pictures, etc., were saved. The gardens retain their ancient character, with curious examples of the topiary art in box and yew.

$28\frac{1}{2}$ m. the rly. reaches the little town of

Ludgershall, pleasantly situated on high ground, over which sweep invigorating breezes from Salisbury Plain. It was formerly a borough town, returning 2 members, and of some importance in early times, but is now only a village of thatched cottages built of red brick and flint.

The ancient name was Lutegar's Hall, from some Saxon owner. The Empress Maud took refuge here in her wars with Stephen, A.D. 1141. The seal of her chief partisan, Milo, Earl of Gloucester, was found in the neighbourhood some years ago. Marlborough and Ludgershall Castles were sometimes held under the Crown by one and the same governor. Among these officers we find the name of Geoffrey Fitzpiers, Earl of Essex

and Chief Justice of England, at whose death John is reported to have exclaimed, "Now, indeed, I shall be king and lord of this realm!" In 1464 Edward IV. granted it with 200 acres of park at Collingbourn to George, Duke of Clarence. Soon after Edward VI. it became the property of the Brydges family, ancestors of the Duke of Chandos. The castle was "clene down" at Leland's visit, 1540. Subsequent owners have been Selwyns, Sidneys, and Sir James Graham.

The *castle* is at the N. end of the village, but there is little more than a fragment of the Norm. keep, now forming part of a farmyard wall, encompassed by an earthen rampart and two deep ditches. A pleasant view is gained from the spot, the eye ranging in a northerly direction over *Collingbourn Wood*, 2 m. in extent.

In the village is an old market cross about 12 ft. high, with representations of the "Command to St. Peter," the "Three Maries," the "Crucifixion," and the "Ascension."

The *Ch.* is of flint, and contains the Jacobean tomb of Sir Richard Brydges, Knt., and of his wife, whose effigies repose within an archway between the S. transept and nave.

Biddesden House, 1½ m. E. (A. H. Huth, Esq.), was built by General Webb, who served in the Duke of Marlborough's campaigns, and was once occupied by the Duke of Chandos. It is now the property of the Everett family. *Crawlboys Wood* preserves the name of an ancient Norman owner, Croillebois.

The rly. soon crosses the Wiltshire border, and reaches 32½ m.

Weyhill Stat., and 36¼ m.

Andover Junction Stat.

Should the route be taken about the beginning of October, the tourist should be reminded that *Weyhill Fair*, one of the largest in England, commences on the 10th of that month, when, in the language of Carlyle, "assembling from all the four winds come the elements of an unspeakable hurly-burly." 140,000 sheep have changed hands on the first day. The staple commodities of the fair are Dorsetshire sheep, Farnham hops, and the cheeses of the neighbouring counties. In 1784 great damage was done at this fair by fire, which destroyed many booths and much property. Readers of the "Mayor of Casterbridge" will remember the sale by Henchard of his wife which took place at this fair (Weydon Priors = Weyhill).

ROUTE 4.

CHIPPENHAM TO FROME BY
MELKSHAM (LACOCK),
TROWBRIDGE, BRADFORD
(MONKTON FARLEIGH, FAR-
LEIGH CASTLE, HINTON
CHARTERHOUSE), AND
WESTBURY.

(*Wilts and Somerset Section of
G.W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	London.
94 m.	Chippenham.
100 m.	Melksham.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	Melksham.
3 m.	Lacock.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Melksham.
103 m.	Holt.
105½ m.	Trowbridge.
<hr/>	
	Trowbridge.
3¼ m.	Bradford-on-Avon.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	Bradford-on-Avon.
2 m.	Westwood.
3 m.	Farleigh Hungerford.
5 m.	Hinton Charterhouse.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Trowbridge.
109½ m.	Westbury.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	Westbury.
3½ m.	Edington.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Westbury.
115 m.	Frome.

94 m. from Paddington, *Chippenham* Stat. (Rte. 1). Between Chippenham and Corsham the flank of the chalk hills, and in front of them the greensand, which for many a mile has limited the view from the rly., turns abruptly towards the S., where

the rly. throws off a branch in the same direction.

After leaving the main line the traveller may observe on the heights to the l. *Bowden Park* and *Spye Park*, and in the vale, by the side of the Avon, 3 m. *Lacock Abbey* (see *post*). ½ m. beyond Lacock the rly. crosses the line of the Roman road from Bath to Marlborough.

100 m. ★ **MELKSHAM** Stat. (Pop. 2073). The town lies ¼ m. to the l. on one of the old mail-coach roads from London to Bath. It is seated on the l. bank of the *Avon*, and on the Wilts and Berks Canal, and gives name to the hundred in which it is situated. It consists principally of one street, nearly a mile long. Melksham is a clean old-fashioned town. A *town-hall* in the Italian style was erected in 1847, by a company of shareholders, at a cost of £3000. The principal manufacture is that of cloth. The Avon is crossed by a handsome bridge of 4 arches, near which are a very large corn-mill and a cloth-factory and dye-house.

Melksham in Norman times was a populous town, although surrounded by *Melksham Forest*, a favourite scene of the hunting exploits of Edward I. At a later age it had evidently much declined in importance, as Leland has passed it without notice in his description of this neighbourhood. Near the town several mineral springs, a sulphurous chalybeate and two saline, well up from the beds of the Oxford clay. On the discovery of a saline spring in 1816, high anticipations were raised, and a pump-room,

baths, and other accommodations for visitors were erected, but the wells proved unattractive, and have fallen into disuse.

The *Ch.* was originally a Norm. cruciform building, traces of which style appear in the pilaster buttresses and billet moulding at the E. end, and the mouldings at the W. end of the aisles. The central tower, on low Norm. arches, was taken down in 1840 by Wyatt, and rebuilt at the W. end, preserving its old summit. The nave arcade is Early Dec., with low cylindrical piers. There is a very fine Perp. chapel, S. The chancel was fitted with choir-stalls and a new oak ceiling by the late Mr. G. E. Street in 1881. In 1891 it was refloored and seated, and a carved oak screen was added. A tithebarn to the W. of the church is used as the parish schoolroom.

[The visitor may well pause at Melksham to examine the places of archæological interest in which the neighbourhood is peculiarly rich, including *Lacock Abbey* (which may also be reached from Chippenham, 4 m.), *Spye Park*, *Bromham*, and the manor-houses of *Great Chaldfield* and *South Wraxall*.

Lacock Abbey is 3 m. N. on the road to Chippenham. The hill which rises abruptly from it commands one of the finest prospects in the county, embracing woodland heights, forming the parks of *Bowden* and *Spye*, which, with the "Great Wood" of Lord Lansdowne's extensive domain of Bowood, contrast finely with the naked slopes of the chalk which are seen across an intervening valley.

* **LACOCK ABBEY**, long the property and residence of the late W. H. Fox Talbot, Esq., well known as one of the principal inventors of photography, and now of his son, C. H. Talbot, Esq., is situated on the *Avon*, below the heights of Bowden Park. Lacock is a place of great antiquity. Here stood one of the three "castella" founded by the British king Dynwal Moelmyd. Another was at Malmesbury, and a third at Tetbury.

Lacock Abbey was founded for Augustinian canonesses April 16th, 1232, by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, daughter and heiress of William, Earl of Salisbury. She founded it in memory of her deceased husband, William Longespée, the natural son of Henry II., and in his wife's right Earl of Sarum. She took the habit of the order here December 25th, 1238; was elected the first abbess August 15th, 1240, previous to which date the house appears to have been governed by the prioress; resigned her office, on account of age and infirmity, December 31st, 1257, nominating Beatrice of Kent as her successor; and dying August 24th, 1261, in the 74th year of her age, was buried in the choir of the abbey church.

The list of abbesses, as far as known, is as follows:—

- (1) Ela Longespée, the foundress, elected 1240.
- (2) Beatrice of Kent, elected 1257.
- (3) Alice.
- (4) Juliana, abbess in 1288 and 1290.
- (5) Agnes, abbess in 1299.
- (6) Joan de Montefort, abbess

in 1303 and 1315, probably identical with Joan, 1325.

(7) Sibill de Seyntecroiz, abbess in 1329.

(8) Matilda de Montefort, abbess in 1351.

(9) Faith Selyman.

(10) Agnes de Wick, elected 1380, on the death of Faith Selyman.

(11) Elen de Montefort, probably identical with Elen, 1408, abbess in 1421 and 1426.

(12) Agnes Fray (or Frary), probably identical with Agnes, 1434.

(13) Agnes Draper, elected 1445, on the death of Agnes Fray.

(14) Margery of Gloucester, elected 1483.

(15) Joan Temys, probably elected shortly before 1516, last abbess.

In the reign of Henry VIII., January 21st, 1539, after a three years' reprieve as one of the 30 lesser monasteries, Lacock was surrendered to the King. It was sold (1540) to William Sharington, Esq., afterwards Sir William Sharington, of a Norfolk family, one of the gentlemen of the King's Privy Chamber, who adapted the conventual buildings to form a residence for himself. He was appointed by Henry VIII., April 5th, 1546, sub-treasurer of the Mint at Bristol, but in the reign of Edward VI., having been concerned in intrigues in support of Lord Seymour of Sudeley, was, on the fall of Lord Seymour, imprisoned, attainted, and condemned to death, and his estates were forfeited. He was afterwards pardoned, and able to repurchase

most of his property, but did not regain his office in connection with the Mint at Bristol. He rose again, under the favour of John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland, and died whilst in office as sheriff of Wilts, apparently July 8th, 1553. Sir William, who was thrice married—firstly to Ursula, natural daughter of John Bouchier, Lord Berners, the translator of Froissart; secondly to Elyanor, daughter of William Walsingham and sister of Sir Francis Walsingham, Secretary of State to Queen Elizabeth; and thirdly to Grace Farington, of Farington, in Devonshire, widow of Robert Paget, alderman of London—died without issue, and his estates passed to his brother Henry, afterwards Sir Henry Sharington, who married Anne Paget, daughter of Sir William's third wife by her former marriage. Of the three daughters of Sir Henry Sharington, the eldest, Ursula, was the first wife of Thomas, eldest son of Sir Ralph Sadleir, the statesman of Henry VIII., Edward VI., and Elizabeth, and died without issue; the second, Grace, married Sir Anthony Mildmay, of Apthorpe, in Northamptonshire, and was ancestress of the earls of Westmoreland; the third, Olive, married firstly John Talbot, of Salwarpe, in Worcester-shire, and secondly Sir Robert Stapylton, of Wighill, in Yorkshire, and had issue by both marriages. The manor and the greater part of the estate of Lacock went to Olive, the younger of the two co-heiresses.

During the Rebellion the abbey was fortified and garrisoned for Charles I., and in 1645 was be-

sieged by a detachment of Fairfax's army, to whom it surrendered by capitulation, Sept. 24th, at the first summons, the garrison being alarmed by the fall of Bristol and Devizes.

The great-grandson of Olive was Sir John Talbot, the last survivor of the male line of the Talbots of Lacock, and a strong Royalist. He was succeeded by his grandson, John Ivory Talbot, who greatly altered the house. Martha, daughter of Ivory Talbot, married her first cousin, the Rev. William Davenport, LL.D., Rector of Bredon, in Worcestershire, and was grandmother of William Henry Fox Talbot (b. February 11th, 1800).

The present house retains the principal part of the monastic building, variously adapted by Sir W. Sharington and subsequent owners to suit domestic requirements, and still presents one of the most perfect remaining examples of conventual arrangement. The modern mansion surrounds the ancient cloister court. To the S., by a somewhat unusual arrangement, of which Canterbury, Gloucester, and Malmesbury are examples, stood the conventual *Ch.*, 143 ft. long by 29 ft. wide, a stone-vaulted E.E. building, without transepts or aisles, to which was added, apparently on the S. side and next the E. end, in 1315, a wooden-roofed Lady Chapel, in which was the tomb of Sir John Bluet, lord of the manor of Lackham, in the parish of Lacock, and his wife. A recent excavation has determined the length of the abbey church, but very little of the foundations remains, and of the church itself only the N.

wall, pierced with modern windows to light the long gallery over the S. walk of the cloisters, enlarged and altered by Mr. Fox Talbot. Traces of the original lancets are to be seen on the western bays. The site of the *Ch.* forms part of a terrace walk. The **cloister ambulatories** surround 3 sides of the court: E., N., and S. They are of excellent Perp. design, vaulted throughout with a rich lierne roof with elaborate bosses. The 2 W. bays on the **S. side** are the earliest, being transitional from Dec. to Perp., and have the richer groining.

In this south walk is an E.E. doorway of the abbey church, recently unblocked, which led into the nuns' choir, and further W. there are traces of another doorway of similar character. In the **east walk** have been similarly discovered the E.E. doorway of the dormitory staircase, with remains of the original steps, and, adjacent to it, a two-light window, which lit the staircase from the cloister, E.E. originally, but refaced in the 15th century. The principal discovery here was the unblocking of the W. front of the chapter-house, the E.E. entrance arch, and unglazed side windows. The latter were closed by Sharington, who converted the chapter-house into a dwelling-room, and inserted a Renaissance doorway under the entrance arch. The remains of this doorway were found, but so crippled and mutilated that they could not be retained *in situ*. The work of the Perp. cloister crosses the E.E. work in a very remarkable manner. Towards the W. end of the north walk are the

remains of an E.E. **lavatory**, remodelled when the Perp. cloister was built, apparently by one of the Hungerford family, as shown by the arms and sickle badge of Hungerford on the work. In the upper part is a fresco of the 15th century, representing an abbess kneeling to a bishop, probably St. Augustine, who is giving his benediction. To the left are the remains of another less well preserved fresco. These remains also were lately discovered. Adjacent may be traced one jamb of the E.E. doorway to the refectory staircase.

On the **east side** of the cloisters (beginning from the S., or church, wall) we have first the **sacristy**, and then the **chapter-house**. Both have E.E. vaulting, carried by a row of central pillars. The E. walls of these buildings, which had been cut through in the last century, have been recently replaced, and windows of E.E. character introduced. In the chapter-house are traces of a Renaissance fireplace, introduced by Sharington, which must have been a very fine one, but it has been deliberately destroyed. Then follow the *slype*, or passage, with an E.E. doorway, and the **calefactory**, or **day-room**, vaulted in two alleys, with a fireplace. Two rooms with a plain barrel vault succeed. The whole of the upper story on this side was occupied by the *dormitory*, 138 ft. by 26 ft., still covered by its fine timbered roof, of Late Dec. character, which may be seen in places, through gaps in the ceiling of the upper gallery; a large pointed window may be traced in the N. gable. The N.

side of the cloister court is occupied by the undercroft of the **refectory**, also vaulted in two alleys, and a passage. The refectory roof is Perp., and there have been rose windows in the S. wall. The present **kitchen**, at the W. end, occupies the site of the conventual kitchen. Both refectory and dormitory have been divided by floors at the springing at the roof, and converted into chambers below. Those in the dormitory open out of a long stone gallery, formed by Sir W. Sharington, which has a very beautiful Renaissance chimney-piece, and is full of curiosities and works of art. Among these are some carved oak chairs of 16th-century Renaissance design, but painted blue and white about the time of Queen Anne, when the Talbot arms were probably introduced, a bronze pestle and mortar bearing Sharington's name and scorpion badge, and a pair of elk antlers of remarkable size. The **library** adjoins the gallery to the S. One of the chambers is supposed to have been that in which Queen Elizabeth slept when she was here in 1574, and knighted her host, Sir H. Sharington, but it has been much modernized. At the S.E. angle of the house adjacent to the *library* is an octagonal tower, built by Sir W. Sharington, containing 3 rooms, one above the other. The 2 lower have vaulted ceilings, that of the **muniment-room**, on the first floor, being constructionally a fan vault, but without the fan panelling, evidently intended to depend for its effect on painting, which was never carried out. Both this room and that above

contain very remarkable stone tables richly carved in the Renaissance style. The one in the muniment-room has the initials "W. S." and "W. & G." for Sir William and his third wife; the one in the upper room has figures of Bacchus, Ceres, and Apicius, and a female figure with a torch. All Sharington's work is exquisite in design, and will reward close attention as an example of the best early Renaissance. Preserved in the muniment-room is an original copy of the "Great Charter" of Henry III., 1225, once in the custody of Ela, Countess of Salisbury, as hereditary sheriff of Wilts. On the W. side of the cloister is the **hall**, designed by an amateur architect, Mr. Sanderson Miller, of Radway, Warwickshire, 1754, for J. Ivory Talbot, and interesting as an example of early Gothic revival. Ivory Talbot also made the present **dining-room**, a handsome Palladian apartment, containing some good pictures: Charles I., an old copy of *Vandyck*; the Duchess of Richmond (original at Windsor Castle), later copy of *Vandyck*; and "The Arts and Sciences," *Cornelius van Haarlem*. In the **south gallery** are Henry VIII., by *Holbein*; Sir William Sharington, by *Antonio More*; Edward, Lord Beauchamp, grandson of the Protector Somerset; the children of Charles I. (old copy of *Vandyck*); a small picture of still-life, by a hardly known Dutch painter, *Hov. a. Vollenhoorw*, 1619, interesting as having been in the collection of Charles I.; Bp. Prideaux, of Worcester; Sharington Talbot (d. 1642), son of Olive, and his first wife, Eliza-

beth (d. 1615), daughter of Sir Thomas Leighton; their grandson, Sir John Talbot, and his second wife, Barbara, daughter of Sir Henry Slingsby; his uncle, Sir Gilbert Talbot (d. 1695), a very fine portrait by *J. Hales*, 1679. Sir Gilbert was an old Cavalier, sent agent to Venice about the year 1638; afterwards suffered much for his adherence to the royal cause; was one of the first Fellows of the Royal Society, and Master of the Jewel Office to Charles II.; as a contributor to the rebuilding of the Heralds' College, had his pedigree recorded in the "Benefactors' Book."

In the **stone gallery, brown gallery, and lobby** are Sir Henry Slingsby, Bart., of Scriven, beheaded by Oliver Cromwell; Sir John Ivory, of New Ross, Co. Wexford, and his wife, Anne, eldest daughter of Sir John Talbot; their eldest son, John Ivory Talbot, and his wife, Mary, daughter of the first Lord Mansel, of Margam; his sisters, Anne Ivory and Barbara, second wife of Henry Davenport, of Worfield; her husband, Henry Davenport; their son, the Rev. William Davenport, LL.D., and his wife, Martha, daughter of Ivory Talbot, a very fine portrait; her brother, John Talbot; John Mytton, of Halston, and his wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Davenport by his first marriage; Charles Talbot, Duke of Shrewsbury, and his duchess; Henry Yelverton, Lord Grey de Ruthyn, first Viscount Longueville, and his wife, Barbara, second daughter of Sir John Talbot; and Miss Heriote Yelverton. The portrait long attributed

to Olive, wife of John Talbot, has been so named in error. Beneath the hall and dining-room are some ancient apartments, including one vaulted from a single central pillar. The **base court**, N., built by Sharington, is very picturesque with large dormers, and a very quaint clock-tower and bell-turret.

In the cloisters are two monumental slabs, including that of the foundress, Ela, removed from the church, bearing the following inscription:—

“Infra sunt defossa Elæ venerabilis ossa,
Quæ dedit has sedes sacras monialibus
ædes,
Abbatissa quidem quæ sancte vixit ibidem,
Et comitissa Sarum virtutum plena bonarum.”

In the chapter-house was the memorial slab of Ilbertus de Chaz. It has been restored to Monkton Farleigh, and is now in the possession of Sir C. Hobhouse, Bart.

In the last century the doors from the cloisters into the chapter-house and other rooms on the E. side were walled up, and the end walls towards the terraces demolished, throwing them open. This, in the case of the chapter-house and sacristy, has now been remedied. To the N.E. lay ponds or stews for fish, of which one remains. Beyond stands the so-called **Nuns' Caldron**, a huge vessel of bronze or bell-metal, cast at Mechlin, in 1500, by Peter Wagheuens, estimated to hold 67 gallons, bearing the inscription, “A Petro Wagheuens in Mechlinia effusus factus ve fveram Anno Domini millesimo qvingentesimo. Deo lavs et Gloria Cristo.”

Lacock Abbey is intimately associated with the early history

of photography. Fox Talbot, working independently as an inventor, succeeded, in 1835, in taking many photographs of the building. In 1841, his improved process, called first calotype and afterwards Talbotype, was patented, and from that date for several years a great deal of photography was executed here, and also at an establishment set up first at Reading, and afterwards in London.

The most noticeable and accessible portions of the abbey may be seen by visitors, any day except Sundays, on application at the lodge, and payment of certain fixed fees, which are devoted to a fund for remodelling the chancel of the parish church, as a memorial to Fox Talbot.

The inhabited portions of the house are, in general, not shown.

The **Abbey Barn**, of the 14th century, and the restored **Market Cross** deserve notice.

Lacock *Ch.* (St. Cyriac, an almost unique dedication) is a very interesting cruciform building. The N. transept, part of S. transept, and lower part of W. tower are Dec. The spire is Late Perp. the nave Perp. and very rich. A groined Perp. porch has been added by one of the Baynard family of Lackham to the W. of the tower, and there is a highly ornate and highly coloured Lady Chapel, with elaborate vaulting and pendants of the time of Henry VI. A coat of arms, under a niche at the E. end of the chapel externally, is identical with that of Robert Nevill, Bishop of Salisbury, 1427-37. The chancel is modern, 1777, and the transepts were unfortunately raised in 1861. In the S.

transept there is a brass to Robert Baynard and wife, 1501, and in the Lady Chapel there is a rich Renaissance canopied tomb to Sir W. Sharington, 1566, erected 13 years after his death in 1553, and a sumptuous marble monument to Sir John Talbot (d. 1713). The canopied niche in the N. wall of the chapel and those at the apex of the gables, as at St. John's, Devizes, deserve notice. The sacramental plate includes a 15th-century covered cup, now used as the chalice, but it is doubtful whether it was originally ecclesiastical or secular.

At Lacock Church *Bp. Jewel*, in 1571, preached his last sermon, when making a visitation to the churches of his diocese. It was from the text "Walk in the Spirit." He went from the pulpit to his bed at Monkton Farleigh, and died there in a few days, 1571.

Rather less than 2 m. W. of Lacock, on the top of the hill, commanding an extensive view, is the embattled entrance gateway to **Spye Park**, brought from old Bromham House. The old house, for many years the residence of the Bayntuns, and afterwards of the Starkys, was adapted as their principal residence about 1650 by the Bayntun family, after the destruction of Bromham House in 1645. It was, with the exception of one room, of no great size, but it rested on the verge of a charming hill. Evelyn visited it, 1654, and describes it in his "Diary" as "a place capable of being made a noble seat; but the humorous old knight has built a long single house of 2 low stories on the precipice of an incom-

parable prospect." This house was taken down, 1868, by J. W. G. Spicer, Esq., and a new house built by him near the old site. The Roman road from Bath to London crosses the park of 500 acres, containing every element of the picturesque. If bound to Bromham the stranger will find a delightful path to that village just below the gatehouse. It runs across the fields, behind the site of Spye Park old house, and by the hamlet of Chittoe, the distance about 2 m.

Bromham can be visited either from Melksham or Devizes, being equidistant (4 m.) from these towns. It retains two 15th-century houses.

Old Bromham House was erected, temp. Henry VIII., with the spoils of Devizes Castle and Corsham Manor-house, and is described as being "nearly as large as Whitehall, and fit to entertain a king." Standing close on the old western road, it became one of the usual halting-places for the nobility and gentry on their way to "the Bath." Royalty sometimes sojourned there. James I. visited Bromham in 1616, and again 1618 and 1621, and hunted in the park. The house was burnt by the forces of Colonel Lloyd and the King in 1645. Only part of one wing remains. Some of the stones were used in erecting the lodge in Spye Park. Sir Edward Bayntun of Bromham was Latimer's patron. He died in France in 1544 while attending Henry VIII. as Vice-Chancellor.

The *Ch.* is a fine building, with a S. aisle to nave and chancel,

and a central tower with stone spire. The prevailing style is Perp., but the nave was originally Norm. Small Norm. windows, walled up, exist in the N. wall. The chancel (rebuilt) is E.E., with a shafted eastern triplet. The S. aisle adjacent to the tower has flat stone groining with a large pendant. The chancel aisle, or Bayntun Chapel, built by Richard Beauchamp, second Baron St. Amand (ob. 1508), who founded therein a chantry in honour of our Lady of St. Nicholas, is very rich both within and without, with a flat panelled roof painted and gilt. This chapel contains the monumental effigies, pennons, and rusty armour of the Bayntuns of Bromham; a canopied tomb with a brass to Sir Edward Bayntun and his two wives, 1578; a brass to John Bayntun, 1516; and a Purbeck marble altar-tomb, with a full-length effigy of Sir Roger Touchet, second husband of Lady St. Amand; and a tablet to Henry Season, M.D., author of an almanac which he whimsically entitled "Season on the Seasons." On the floor is a brass of John Bayntun (ob. 1516), cousin and heir of Richard Beauchamp, second Lord St. Amand. On the N. side of the churchyard is the grave of *Thomas Moore*, the poet, who died 1852 at his cottage at *Sloperton*, between Bromham and Chitway. The stained glass in the W. window, representing the Last Judgment, was put up in 1879 to the poet's memory.

Bromham in the time of Edward the Confessor was the lordship of Earl Harold. In the reign of Henry VI. it belonged to William Beauchamp, Lord St.

Amand, and from the son of that nobleman it passed to his cousins the Bayntuns. Bromham was the birthplace of George Webbe, Bishop of Limerick (d. 1641), and of the Rev. J. Collinson, the historian of Somerset (d. 1793).

[1 m. N. of Bromham, near Wans House, the Roman station of **Verlucio** is supposed to have stood, on the Roman road which ran by Bath and Marlborough, indicated by such names as *Hawk Street* and *Nether Street*. *Non-such Park* is a pretty spot near this village. *Seend Manor-house* (H. H. Ludlow-Bruges, J.P.) (see Rte. 5), 3 m. S.E. of Melksham.]

Great Chaldfield (3 m. W.) possesses the very beautiful and interesting remains of a fine manor-house of the 15th century, presumed to have been built by Thomas Tropnell, who died 1490, and, with Agnes his wife, is buried under a rich altar-tomb in Corsham Church. "The N. front is nearly perfect, with the porch and its groined roof, the hall in the centre flanked by a gabled building at each end, each with an oriel, that nearest the church being of singular beauty. The whole front is one of the most elaborate and finest that we have."—*J. H. P.* Unfortunately now, this front is nearly all that remains; the "guest-chamber" behind the eastern oriel was pulled down, the hall cut up into rooms, the screens and gallery destroyed, and the whole interior ruthlessly modernized some years since. Engravings of the hall in its former state, with the curious masks of stone through which a view might be obtained of the

hall from the upper chambers at either end, and which are still preserved, may be found vol. iii. Walker's "Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages" (which also contains engravings of Wraxall), and vol. iii. of Pugin's "Examples of Gothic Architecture." The barns and farm-buildings date from the period of Queen Elizabeth. The little church adjoins the house towards the N.E., and may almost be said to form a part of it, as it is within the moat which encircles the whole. This also has suffered greatly from alterations, but much remains of beauty and interest; the bell-turret with its spire crowning the W. gable, and the hooded groined W. porch, are probably of the date of Henry VII. The S. chapel and the very fine stone screen were erected by the builder of the manor-house, and, as at Corsham Church, bear his arms and motto: "Le joug tyra belement." The stone screen has been removed, and now separates the chancel from the nave, and an addition was made to the S.E. in the last century. The register dates from 1545, and contains hardly any name but that of Eyre. The house was occupied as a military post in the civil wars, traces of which may be seen in the loop-holed gable. A round tower of defence stands at the N.E. corner of the churchyard. The water of the moat turns a mill which occupies the site of one which existed here at the time of the Domesday Survey.

[**Little Chaldfield**, further W., belonged at one time to the Eyres, but the house is quite modern.]

South Wraxall (2 m. further W.). The manor-house is a very beautiful and interesting example of mediæval domestic architecture. The buildings surround 3 sides of a court, with the gatehouse to the S. and the hall facing W., with Perp. windows and a square one flanked by a huge gabled drawing-room, added by Sir Walter Long (c. 1600). The gargoyles are singularly large and hideous. The oldest portions are the entrance gateway and the fine oriel of the room over it, and the hall, with its porch and bays, probably a work of the time of Henry VII. (*J. H. P.*) or perhaps built by Walter Long, M.P. for Wiltshire, 1433. The roof of the hall was partly hidden by a plaster ceiling, and a rich fireplace inserted in 1598. A covered way leads from the hall to the kitchen. The drawing-room is very large and handsome, with a richly ornamented plaster ceiling and an elaborate chimney-piece with carved figures of Prudence, Justice, Geometry, and Arithmetic, with Pan in the centre and quaint inscriptions. Opposite the fireplace is a singular projection, in which are recesses with shell scrolls, to carry the wall-plate of the old roof. Out of this a short flight of steps leads to a bedroom of the same date, the most remarkable feature of which is the fireplace, with a baboon on a bracket and its three mottoes: "Faber est quisq. fortunæ suæ"; "Æqua laus est a laudatis laudari et ab improbis improbari"; "Mors rapit omnia." Tradition states that this is the first house in which tobacco was smoked in England, the consumers being Sir Walter

Raleigh and Sir Walter Long, and the scene the guest-chamber. It may be mentioned that the house, which was built by a Long, has remained in the possession of that family ever since.

At a short distance from the house are the remains of a very curious "hospitium" of the 13th century, dedicated to St. Audoen (or Owen), consisting of a chapel, hall, and dwelling-house, for the reception and entertainment of wayfarers, turned into a house of the 17th century, and still further modernized. A stone screen of foliated arches remains almost concealed in modern partitions and floors.

The *Ch.* of South Wraxall (restored 1882) has a tower with a pack-saddle roof and of somewhat foreign character. The Late Perp. porch and Long Chapel adjoining are of almost debased character.

Returning to our route, the rly. descends the valley of the Avon, and reaches

101½ m. on rt. **Broughton Gifford**, which gave a title to the late Lord Broughton, formerly known as Sir John Cam Hobhouse, Lord Byron's fellow-traveller and friend. It has a *Ch.* with E.E. portions and a Perp. tower. It contains a curious brass to Robert Long. At a spot called "Bradleys," near here, where numerous coins of the later empire have been found, a Roman station is believed to have existed.

103 m. **Holt Junction**, where a branch strikes off l. by Seend to

Devizes and Hungerford (Rte. 5), and a little further rt. *Staverton*, with its large factory. The church is modern.

105½ m. ★ **TROWBRIDGE** (Pop. 11,091), where a line diverges W. to Bradford and Bath. It still, as in Leland's days, "standith on a rocky hill" above the little river Biss, a tributary of the Avon, and "flourishith by drapery," *i.e.*, the manufacture of cloth, which is carried on with great activity, employing many hands; but it cannot now be said to be "very well buildyd of stone," the streets being irregular, and the houses ill built.

In 1100 Trowbridge was among the 38 manors in the county of Wilts of a Norman noble, Edward of Salisbury. Through the marriage of his daughter Maud to Humphry de Bohun (the founder of Monkton Farleigh Priory in 1125), Trowbridge passed to that family, the lordship of the manor, however, remaining in the family of Edward of Salisbury, and through the marriage of Henry IV. with Mary de Bohun the two became again united in the Crown; the manor was granted, 1536, by Henry VIII. to Edward Seymour, his brother-in-law, afterwards Protector Somerset.

Trowbridge, like many of our country towns, was first built around a *castle*, which, during the Norman period, stood on an eminence now called *Court Hill*. One of the first notices of Trowbridge Castle occurs in the reign of Stephen, when, the place being held for the Empress Maud by Humphry de Bohun, it was besieged by the King. We find it next mentioned in the time of Edward III., when it was held by John of Gaunt, by whom the castle is said to have been rebuilt.

When Leland visited Trowbridge in Henry VIII.'s time, it was "clene down." Not a fragment of the castle now remains, but the contour of the moat and vallum may still be traced in the principal street (Fore Street), to which it gives its curved outline. In 1861 a market-house was built by William Stancomb, Esq., the lord of the manor. The manor was bestowed by Henry VIII. on the Somerset family, from whom it passed by marriage to the Duke of Rutland, and after sundry changes by sale to the present owner. The name Trowbridge has perplexed etymologists. Leland calls the place Thorough Bridge; Camden, Trubridge; Gough, Trolbridge. The true etymology is *Trolebyrig*, the castle by the Trowle. Beyond the town W. are a tithing called Trowle and Trowle Common. The bridge over the Biss was called Trowle Bridge, but the castle existed many centuries before the bridge was built.

The *Ch.* (St. James'), known as "the New Church" till the erection of Holy Trinity Church in 1830, is a fine Perp. building, unmixed with any earlier style, of excellent masonry, erected c. 1475, James Terumber, a rich clothier, being the chief contributor to the fabric, restored in 1848, and almost entirely rebuilt on the old plan. The *tower* stands engaged at the W. end, and supports a lofty stone spire, and has fine groining within, as have the 2 large porches. The open roof of the nave is one of considerable beauty. The font is lofty, carved with the emblems of the Crucifixion. The whole building deserves Leland's character of "lightsome and fair." From the year 1814 to 1832 the

Rev. *George Crabbe*, the poet, was rector here. He lies in the chancel, under a monument by Baily. Crabbe spent a lusty old age at Trowbridge, and was in the habit of rambling for hours together, hammer in hand, among the quarries near the town. His firmness and mildness gained him the respect and esteem which the character of his preaching had at first denied him.

"'A moral teacher,' some contemptuous cried,
He smiled, but nothing of the fact denied."
Tales of the Hall.

There is a chapel, built 1852, in the hamlet of Studley.

EXCURSIONS FROM TROW- BRIDGE.

(a) To **West (Rood) Ashton**, 2 m., and **Steeple Ashton**, 4 m.

Rood Ashton (Rt. Hon. W. H. Long, M.P.), 2 m. S.E., takes its name from a famous crucifix, or "holy rood," that stood here. The *Ch.* at West Ashton was built by Mr. Walter Long, 1846. The manor of Ashton was bestowed by King Edgar with that of Edington (c. 959) on Romsey Abbey. It remained abbey property to the dissolution, when, in 1538, it was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir Thomas Seymour, Lord Sudeley. About 2 m. further is the village of **Steeple Ashton**, properly "*Staple*," or *Market*, Ashton (the right of holding a market there having been granted by royal charter to the Abbess of Romsey in 1387). Leland speaks of it as "a pretty little market town. It hath pretty buildings. It standeth much by cloathiers." Early

in the 16th century it suffered much by fire, and its trade was transferred to Market Lavington. In the middle of the street is the market cross, erected in 1066 and restored in 1679, 1714, and 1887. The interesting *Ch.* was erected between 1480 and 1500; the N. aisle was built at the cost of Robert Long, a clothier, and Edith his wife, the S. aisle at the cost of Walter Lucas, also a clothier, and Maud his wife. The church is Perp., with lofty clerestory, and the whole of the exterior is of the finest masonry and well finished. The S. porch is large, with a parvis and good groining. The chancel, with its aisles, is also groined, the ribs intricate in pattern, with fine bosses. In the chancel the ribs spring from clustered shafts standing upon the capitals of the pillars of the arcade; in the aisles the ribs rest on niches set upon angel figures. The nave has wood groining, the ribs springing from stone shafts. The tower is engaged with the aisles, and once had a spire, which had the misfortune of being twice destroyed by lightning. The arcades are lofty and imposing, the windows large and good, and contain some fragments of ancient glass. The chancel was rebuilt in 1853. A very elaborately carved wooden pulpit was added 1874.

(b) To **Road**, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., on the confines of Wilts and Somerset, of sad celebrity for the "Constance Kent tragedy." The parish *Ch.* is a fine one; one corner of the battlements of the tower is known as "the King's Chair," from a tradition that on his flight

from the field of Worcester Charles II. reconnoitred the country thence.

(c) To **Bradford-on-Avon** by rail, a short branch running from Trowbridge to Bradford ($3\frac{1}{4}$ m.), and thence to Bath by the valley of Avon.

★ ★ **BRADFORD-ON-AVON** (Pop. 5297), an ancient town of much historical interest, formerly the seat of an important woollen manufacture, Leland (temp. Henry VIII.) describing it as "standing by clooth-making"; but from various causes, partly from the close vicinity of Trowbridge, partly from greater facilities of coal, etc., in the West Riding of Yorkshire and elsewhere, its business declined, failures became frequent, the factories were closed, the population rapidly diminished, and distress was general. Its condition has been for some time improving. Bradford is most prettily situated in the hollow and on the steep slopes and terraces of the valley of the Avon, up which the houses straggle in picturesque confusion, and being all built of grey stone, without being blackened by the usual smoke of an overcrowded manufacturing hive, it is not only cleanly and pleasantly habitable, but decidedly picturesque.

Bradford takes its name from "the broad ford" over the Avon, which was used by all wheel-carriages to a comparatively recent date, the bridge having been originally much narrower than now.

The first event in the history of Bradford is the victory gained by Cenwealh, King of Wessex, over

the revolted Britons, A.D. 652, "the first conquest which was not one of extermination, but which allowed the vanquished Briton to sit among the fellow-subjects of his English conqueror." — *E. A. F.* The next is the foundation of a monastery by Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne (c. 705). After this Bradford gradually rose in importance, until in 957 the Witanagemote was held here at which Dunstan was appointed Bishop of Worcester. The manor was conferred by Ethelred in 1001 on the Abbess of Shaftesbury, in order that in those unquiet times she and her nuns might have a place of refuge from the insults of the Danes, and a safe hiding-place for the relics of St. Edward the Martyr. The increasing wealth and prosperity of the town is indicated by the erection of a large church in the 12th century, which, though altered and enlarged, remains to the present day. In 1216 Bradford received the dubious honour of a visit from John, within 2 months of the close of his reign. From 1300 to 1500 the town gradually rose in prosperity. The woollen manufacture was established here, and large fortunes were accumulated by several of the more enterprising townsmen. In the 17th century Paul Methuen, the leading clothier of his day, raised the character of the manufacture by the introduction of "spinners" from Holland, from whom the secret of producing the finer kinds of cloth—the staple produce of Bradford up to this time having been merely a coarse kind of drugget—was acquired. The part of the town where these "spinners" lived, at the W. end of Church Street, is still known as "Dutch Barton."

The *Ch.* (Holy Trinity, restored 1865–6 by the exertions of the vicar, Canon Jones) stands low,

and though not highly distinguished for architectural beauty, well deserves a visit. It consists of a nave, with N. aisle, chancel, chantry to S.E. of nave, and W. tower with low spire. The S. wall of the nave and western portion of the chancel are Norm. of the middle of the 12th century; one of the original windows is to be seen in the nave, and another has been reopened in the chancel. In the Dec. period the chancel was lengthened. The interior is spacious and effective. The arcade is entirely new; the 2 W. arches, the piers of which are wreathed with an inscribed band, were the gift of a lady of the town. The stone pulpit is a memorial of Canon Harvey, a former vicar. In the N. aisle wall is a richly panelled recess for a crucifix. The Hall Chapel or Kingston aisle is at the S.E. of the nave. The roof of the chancel is modern, 1881. The E. window is a very elegant example of the Dec. style. The N. aisle shows marks of having been built at two different dates. The tower, groined within, is of the latter part of the 15th century.

In the chancel are two remarkably curious recessed tombs with mutilated effigies of members of the Hall family: on the N. side of a female (probably Agnes Hall, d. 1270), on the S. of a cross-legged knight, under canopies. A fragment of another female effigy, discovered in the N. aisle, is placed in the chancel. There is a brass of the 16th century to a clothier of the town, Thomas Horton, the probable builder of the tower, and his wife, Mary, and another to Anne Long, 1601. A pretentious marble monument

with full-length effigies in the costume of the reign of James II. commemorates "Charles Steward," a son of Dr. Steward, Provost of Eton and successor of Bp. Williams as Dean of Westminster. There are also monuments to the Methuens and Threshers. An erection resembling an altar-tomb outside the S. door of the chancel is probably a "dole-stone," used for the distribution of alms or doles to the poor. William Byrd, vicar of the parish, was attainted in the reign of Henry VIII., A.D. 1539, for traitorous words against the King as a heretic. He was chaplain to Walter, Lord Hungerford (see *post*, Farleigh Castle), who fell under the King's displeasure at the same time and for the same act.

* Church of St. Lawrence.

Closely adjacent to the parish church on the N. is a very remarkable and interesting building, formerly used as the free school, but now cleared of all encumbrances, and restored to its sacred purposes by the energy of the Rev. Canon Jones, "probably the most ancient unaltered church in England, showing the singular analogy between the earlier and later imitations of Roman architecture."—*E. A. F.* There can be no reasonable doubt that it is the actual church built by Ealdhelm at the beginning of the 8th century, dedicated to St. Lawrence, described in the early part of the 12th century by William of Malmesbury, who says of it: "Est ad hunc diem in eo loco (apud Bradeford) ecclesiola quam ad nomen beatissimi Laurentii (Ealdhelmus) fecisse prædicatur."

It consists of a chancel, nave, and N. porch, and has most of the features of the class of buildings called Anglo-Saxon. Amongst the most remarkable characters of this church are its great height as compared with its breadth, and the extreme narrowness of the arch between nave and chancel. There is an incised arcade along the outside walls, and on either side of the west aspect of the chancel arch are two sculptured figures of angels, which are perhaps the earliest extant fragments of church carvings in England.

The **Hermitage Chapel** stands on the summit of *Tory Hill*, the highest part of the town, just above the "Lady Well," which supplies the town with water. It is a small Perp. chapel dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, long in ruins, but recently restored by its owner. Leland mentions it in his "Itinerary," and Aubrey says of it that it is "the finest hermitage I have seen in England, several roomes and a very neat chapel of freestone."

The river Avon is crossed by two **bridges**. That in the centre of the town is ancient, and deserves notice. Aubrey, 200 years ago, described it as "a strong, handsome bridge, in the midst of which is a chapel for mass." This chapel, though much modernized and formerly degraded to the purpose of a lock-up house, is still to be seen on the central pier on the E. side.

The town abounds in antique-looking gable-fronted houses, built and roofed with stone. The

most remarkable of these (conspicuous from the railway), known as the **Duke's** or **Kingston House** (T. Moulton, Esq., J.P.), was built by one of the family of *Hall*, rich clothiers here, probably John Hall, head of the family at the beginning of the 17th century. It is a noble specimen of the Jacobean style, with an excess of window, arabesque battlements, and classical details, and may have been a work of the same hand as Longleat, of the character of which it partakes. The house takes its modern name from the Pierreponts, dukes of Kingston, to whom it passed by marriage. The notorious Duchess of Kingston, the bigamist, is said to have resided here occasionally, and old people still tell traditional tales of her eccentricities. At her death the estates passed to the last Duke's nephew, afterwards Earl Manvers, but the house was sold to Mr. Divett, and by him to its late owner, S. Moulton, Esq., by whom it was most carefully restored. Some of the mantel-pieces, rich with heraldic insignia, and ceilings deserve notice.

The **Chantry House** (J. Beddoe, Esq., M.D., F.R.S.) was founded early in the 16th century by Thomas de Iford, a wealthy clothier, and subsequently added to from designs by Inigo Jones in the 17th century.

The archæologist should cross Barton Bridge and visit **Barton Farm**, famous for its gigantic barn, of the 14th century. It has two arched entrances, like transepts, and its roof is so framed as to be independent of the walls. Part of the farmhouse and a

small bridge belong to the same period.

Next to the Halls the Methuens are the most noteworthy family connected with Bradford. Their ancestor, John Methuen, a member of the historic Scotch family of that name, driven from Scotland by religious persecution, found a favourable reception from Queen Elizabeth. His grandson, Anthony, was prebendary of Wells and vicar of Frome 1609-40. It was his son Paul who settled at Bradford and raised the character of its manufactures by the introduction of weavers from Holland. He was the father of John, and grandfather of Sir Paul Methuen, distinguished diplomatists, buried in Westminster Abbey, and ancestor of the present Lord Methuen, of Corsham.

Bradford Old Priory, built in the 15th century, and formerly the residence of this family, is now the seat of F. T. Saunders, Esq. Other places of importance in the neighbourhood are

Woolley House, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., once the property of the Baskervilles; *Turley House*, N. (H. Applegate, Esq., J.P.), an occasional residence of *Edmund Burke*; *Leigh House* (Lord E. Fitzmaurice, M.P.), *Frankleigh House* (Rev. and Hon. Canon Meade), built temp. James I.; *Northleigh* (G. L. Lopes, Esq., D.L., J.P.); *Berryfield House* (Mrs. Palmer). In the neighbourhood of the town are many pleasant valleys, embosomed in lofty hills, especially that of the *Avon*. A short ride by rly. (or the path by the canal) will bring you to *Freshford*, *Limpley Stoke*, or *Claverton*, three of the prettiest spots in the Avon valley.

EXCURSIONS FROM BRADFORD.

(a) To **Monkton Farleigh** (4 m. N.E.).

Monkton Farleigh is situated on very high ground above the valley of the Avon, commanding a magnificent panoramic prospect. The best points of view are a clump of trees known as *Farleigh Clump* and the *Prospect Tower*, erected by Mr. Wade Brown, on the top of the precipitous hill above Bathford. Monkton Farleigh was the seat of a Cluniac priory, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, and founded as a cell of Lewes, 1125, by Maud, daughter of Edward of Salisbury, and wife of the second Humphry, Baron de Bohun, and by her endowed with an estate called the "Buries," near Warminster. At the dissolution it was granted to Protector Somerset, who in 1550 exchanged it with the Bishop of Salisbury. The remains of the priory are of the scantiest. In the out-houses behind the mansion (Sir Charles Hobhouse, Bart.) are some lancet windows, and there are several stone effigies, including one of a cross-legged knight, one of the Dunstanvilles. The monumental slab of Ilbertus de Chaz, discovered in 1744, when the pavement of the chancel was laid bare, was at Lacock Abbey (see *ante*), but has now been returned to its former home. The *Monks' Conduit*, a small stone-roofed building, lies $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W. of the house. The mansion was once the residence of Lord Webb Seymour. Bp. Jewel died at his manor-house of Monkton Farleigh, where he took to his bed after preaching his last sermon

at Lacock. The *Ch.* is modern, but retains the old tower and a Norm. door. A fine avenue, 1 m. long, leads from the house towards South Wraxall. The quarries of Bath stone are worth a visit (see *supra*, Box, Rte. 1).

(b) To **Westwood** (2 m.), **Farleigh Hungerford** (3 m.), and **Hinton Charterhouse** (5 m.).

Westwood, 2 m. S.W., where the *Ch.* deserves attention. It has a "wildish sort of tower" (*E. A. F.*) of the Somersetshire type, with a difference. The large belfry windows are filled with perforated stonework. At the S.E. corner is a large turret with a domical cap. The chancel shows some lancets and contains some very beautiful stained glass of the 15th century, including the Crucifixion, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Michael, and St. John Baptist. Part of the ceiling is very fine. The oak pulpit (1609) and carved work were brought from Norton St. Philip and other places. The *Manor-house*, a picturesque mansion of the 15th century, built by Thomas Hungerford, founder of the church, has ceilings added by the Farewells, exhibiting the shells borne in their arms. The most picturesque external feature is the cylindrical staircase-turret in the angle between the two ranges of buildings. The house retains some fine oak ceilings, notably in the upper story.

Farleigh Hungerford and its castle (a very interesting object) are in Somerset, and may be reached by road, or by taking the rly. to *Freshford* Stat., from which the castle is 2 m. It is

4 m. W. of the Trowbridge Stat., and 6 m. N. from Frome. Farleigh Castle is a favourite excursion from Bath, 8 m. by road, or by rly. to Freshford.

The *castle* is situated above a ravine called Danes' Ditch. The shell of the gatehouse, the principal entrance, on the S.E. still remains. Passing through it, the upper court is entered, and the chapel and two remaining towers of the lower court will be seen. The Chapel of St. Leonard has been restored, and contains some remarkable effigies (see "Handbook for Somerset").

Hinton Charterhouse (2 m. from Farleigh, and 1 m. from Freshford Stat., from which the pedestrian can conveniently return to Bradford) is also in Somerset. The remains of the Carthusian priory founded, 1232, by Ela, Countess of Salisbury, in pursuance of the will of her husband, William Longespée, are worth visiting. Two groups of buildings persist, one containing the *chapter-house*, the other the *refectory* (see "Handbook for Somerset").

Returning to the rly., from Trowbridge we continue up the valley of the Biss, with the grounds of Rood Ashton and Heywood House to the l., and passing *North Bradley* rt., reach

109½ m. ★ **Westbury** Stat. (Pop. 5634), where a line branches on the l. to Salisbury and Southampton. An ancient town, straggling and ill built, once busy in the cloth manufacture, which is now giving place to that of

iron, a fine vein having been discovered at *Ham*, close to the station, where several large blast-furnaces have been set up. It is situated on the small stream of the Biss at the foot of the chalk hills, of which *Westbury Down* rises to the height of 775 ft. above the sea. It formerly returned two members, then one; but its representation is now merged in that of the county. In 1766 it was represented by Sir William Blackstone, the lawyer. *Bryan Edwards*, the historian of the West Indies, was born in the vicinity of Westbury, at *Charlcott*, formerly the manor-house of the Mauduits, and purchased by his father. Westbury belonged to the family of Pavely, from whom it passed by marriage, 1361, to the St. Loes, and then to the Chedyoks. The borough subsequently belonged to the Earl of Abingdon, who sold it, 1810, to Sir Massey Manasseh Lopes for £6500. It was incorporated by Henry IV., but the Corporation was abolished in 1886. Beyond the *Ch.* it contains little to interest the traveller, but it is within reach of *Longleat*, of the camps of *Scratchbury* and *Battlesbury*, above Warminster, of the camp and White Horse at *Bratton*, and of the church of *Edington*.

The *Ch.* (All Saints') is a fine building, standing among large chestnuts, originally Norm., but Perpendicularized something after Wykeham's fashion at Winchester. It is cruciform, with a central tower, which, like that of Bath Abbey, is not square. The masonry throughout is excellent. At the W. door is a groined porch. The nave is very stately,

the aisles narrow, crossed with transverse stone arches with interpenetrating mouldings; the chancel is low. The E. and W. windows are each of 7 lights, and are filled with rich modern stained glass. A groined chapel stands to W. of the N. transept. There is a chained copy of Erasmus' "Paraphrase of the New Testament" (black-letter) and some good carving in the S. chapel. In the S. transept is a Corinthian monument with effigies of Sir James Ley, Earl of Marlborough, and his wife,—

"That good earl, once President
Of England's Council and her Treasury."
Milton's Sonnets.

Born at Teffont, his father having served Henry VIII. at the siege of Boulogne with his own men, he became successively Lord Chief Justice, Lord Treasurer, and President of the Council in 1629, and was created Baron Ley, of Ley in Devon, by James I., and Earl of Marlborough by Charles I. To the S. of the chancel is the Willoughby de Broke Chapel, temp. Henry VI., to the N. that of the Mauduits. Westbury was chosen for a title by Sir Richard Bethell, Lord High Chancellor (of a Bradford-on-Avon family), when raised to the peerage, 1861.

At **Westbury Leigh**, a moated site, called the *Palace Garden*, is pointed out by tradition as the residence of one of our Anglo-Saxon kings, and in a field, known as the *Ham*, in the vicinity of the rly. stat., many remains of Roman pottery and coins have been discovered. **Brook**, 2 m. N.W., was the seat of the Pavelys, lords of Westbury at a

later period. It derived its name from a small stream which runs past it towards the Avon, and "in its turn," says Camden, "Brook gave the title of Baron to Robert Willoughby, who, on account of his descent from the Pavelys by the family of Cheney, was advanced to it by King Henry VII., with whom he was a special favourite." To this may be added that it also gave title to the earls of Brooke and Warwick, by descent through Elizabeth, eldest daughter and co-heir of Lord Willoughby de Broke, the second baron, and wife of Sir Fulke Greville.

EXCURSIONS FROM WESTBURY.

(a) To **Bratton Castle** (about 3 m. E.; see also excursion b), which crowns a promontory of the chalk down (the Ordnance stat. is 754 ft. above the sea-level), cut off from the main chain by a rampart and ditch. It is an irregularly shaped camp of 23 acres, formed in part by a double rampart, in some places 36 ft. high. Camden, Gibson, Gough, and Hoare consider Bratton Camp to have been the entrenchment to which Guthrum the Dane retired after his decisive defeat by Alfred in the *battle* of Ethandune in 878, which is placed by them at the village of *Edington*, 1 m. W.; and there is a tradition that the Danes were posted in the little valley, thence called *Dane Leys*, situated under the hill. The locality of this battle is much disputed, and is placed by Bp. Clifford at Edington on the N. side of Polden Hill (see "Handbook for

Somerset"). Below the camp, on the S. slope of the hill, is the figure of a colossal **White Horse**, formed by removing the turf, originally a very rude design, and perhaps a memorial of Alfred's victory, but held by others to be of much later date, and certainly restored in 1778. Its dimensions are 175 ft. from head to tail, 107 ft. high at shoulder; the eye is 25 ft. in circumference. It was thoroughly renovated in 1873, and is now cleaned when necessary.

Bratton Church, sheltering close under the slope of the down, is Perp., with an E.E. chancel.

(b) To **Edington** (an excursion which may easily be combined with the last. It is $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Westbury Stat., and $1\frac{1}{2}$ from Bratton Castle. Leave Westbury by the road up the hill to Beggar's Knoll. At the cross-paths there turn to the l. for Bratton Castle. Keep through it down to Bratton, thence to Edington, and return by road).

***Edington** should be visited by every archæologist for the sake of the beautiful *Ch.* erected by Bp. Edington, a native of the place, the predecessor of William of Wykeham in the see of Winchester, and the originator of the great work of the restoration of the cathedral completed by him. It is a most valuable example of the transition from the Dec. to the Perp. style.

The first stone was laid in 1352, and it was dedicated in 1361. In 1347 Bp. Edington founded a college here for a dean and 12 prebendaries, which, at the request

of the Black Prince, was converted into a monastery of the order of Bonhommes, of which this priory and that of Ashridge in Bucks were the only seats in England.

In Jack Cade's rebellion, 1449, Ayscough, Bishop of Salisbury, was murdered by a body of Wiltshire peasantry, who dragged him from the altar of this church, and stoned him to death on the neighbouring hill, on the plea that he was always absent with the King, Henry VI., as his confessor, and kept no hospitality in his diocese. His head was struck off and his blood-stained vestments divided among his murderers.

The *Ch.* challenges attention by its almost cathedral proportions and rich outline. It is cruciform with a central tower on 4 noble arches, with the Pavely cross flory in the belfry window, and a lofty S. porch well groined with a double parvis over. On the l. side of the path leading to the S. door is a dole-table, in form like an altar-tomb, but quite plain. The nave is 75 ft. long, and has 6 lofty arches. The windows deserve special notice as the forerunners of Perp. tracery. The W. front is singularly noble; in the window the Perp. style is fully established. In the S. transept is an anonymous effigy of an ecclesiastic under a richly coloured canopy, supposed from the rebus to be that of John Bayntun; and in the chancel are canopies of rich work between the windows, two of which contain their original statues, though headless. There is a monument to Sir Edward Lewys, gentleman of the Privy Chamber to Charles I., and his lady, Anne, daughter of the Earl

of Dorset and widow of Lord Beauchamp, singularly rich and well carved, with a fine alabaster effigy, 1630. It is a fine example of its time, but in order to accommodate it two of the three sedilia have unfortunately been cut away. The Cheney monument on the S. of the nave, an altar-tomb under a canopy bearing the Pavely and Cheney arms, forms a small chantry chapel. The monument to Sir Simon Taylor is by Chantrey. The roofs are plastered in imitation of Gothic work; the date 1658 is on that of the N. aisle. The consecration crosses are to be seen in the N. aisle outside, and the E. wall both inside and outside. The N. transept forms a chapel, and contains a piscina and credence-table, with niche above containing the remains of colouring, including a lily-pot on either side. There is a little old glass. The E. end of the church is separated from the rest by a fine rood-screen, with loft, extensively restored. The college buildings stood to the N. of the church, as is shown by the height of the sills of the windows from the ground. To the N.W. of the church is a very picturesque embattled house, with irregular projections. The buttressed wall of the orchard deserves notice, and the site of the monastic fishponds. A yew-tree, 21 ft. in girth, stands to the E. of the church.

At the time of the dissolution the priory was granted to Lord Seymour of Sudeley, the Protector's brother. On his fall it was re-granted to William Poulett, first Marquis of Winchester, then Lord Treasurer,

from whom it passed to the dukes of Bolton. It is now the property of S. Watson-Taylor, Esq., of Erlestoke Park.

An avenue of noble elms leads from Edington to the adjacent village of Tinhead.

(c) Other Places near Westbury.

About 7 m. E. of Westbury is the park of **Erlestoke** or **Stoke Comitis**, so called from having belonged to Edward d'Evreux, Earl of Sarum, temp. William I. The house, a fine classical structure (Simon Watson-Taylor, Esq., D.L., J.P.), was built 1788 by Joshua Smith, M.P. for Devizes. The *Ch.* was built from Mr. Street's designs, 1880. The situation and grounds are very beautiful. 1 m. N., **Heywood House** (Lord Ludlow), built in the reign of James I. by Lord Ley, afterwards Earl of Marlborough, and rebuilt by its late owner. **Leighton** (W. H. Laver-ton, Esq., J.P.) and **Chalcot** (C. N. P. Phipps, Esq., D.L., J.P.) are in this neighbourhood, and 6 m. S. the splendid park and mansion of Longleat (Marquis of Bath) (Rte. 11).

At Westbury the rly. bends westward, and at 112 m. passes rt. Standerwick Court, and 2 m. N.W. Beckington, at 113 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. Berkley, and reaches, 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Frome* Stat.

village of *Swallowfield* stands in the 3 counties.

ROUTE 5.

HUNGERFORD TO BATH
(LITTLECOTE, RAMSBURY)
BY GREAT BEDWYN, SAVER-
NAKE, PEWSEY (VALLEY OF
THE AVON TO AMESBURY),
TO DEVIZES, BRADFORD,
FRESHFORD, VALLEY OF
CLAVERTON.

(*G.W. Rly*)

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Hungerford.
4 m.	Littlecote.
5 m.	Ramsbury.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Hungerford.
4 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Great Bedwyn.
8 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Savernake.
13 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Pewsey.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	Pewsey.
16 m.	Amesbury.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Pewsey.
16 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Woodborough.
23 m.	Devizes.
24 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Rowde.
27 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Seend.
31 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Holt.
34 m.	Bradford.
35 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Freshford.
36 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Limpley Stoke.
41 m.	Bathampton.
43 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Bath.

★ **Hungerford** Stat. (“Handbook for Berks”).

S. of Hungerford, at the junction of the 3 counties of Wilts, Hants, and Berks, rises *Inkpen Beacon*, the loftiest chalk down in England, 1011 ft. above the sea, commanding a wide and beautiful prospect. To the N.W. it overlooks Savernake Forest, to the S.E. the woods of Highclere (“Handbook for Hants”). The

EXCURSIONS FROM HUNGERFORD.

(a) To **Savernake Forest** (see p. 104) by train to Great Bedwyn Stat., whence it is about 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the entrance near St. Catherine’s Church.

(b) To **Littlecote** and **Ramsbury**.

***Littlecote** (4 m.), “a good house of Alexander Popham’s” in Pepys’ time, “renowned not more on account of the venerable architecture and furniture, than on account of a horrible and mysterious crime perpetrated there in the days of the Tudors” (*Macaulay*), the seat of the Pophams (shown when the family is away), situated in its well-wooded but gloomy and neglected park in the valley of the Kennet. It is a remarkable specimen of an almost unaltered mansion of the 16th century, built by the Darells, and sold by the last of that family to Judge Popham in the reign of Elizabeth. The great hall is hung with armour, cross-bows, etc., and the buff jerkins and steel caps of Cromwell’s Ironsides; the gallery, which is upwards of 100 ft. long, with family portraits, including those of Judge Popham and Nell Gwyn. In one room the visitor is shown the chair of Judge Popham and the finger-stocks, a curious instrument of torture for punishing servants, and in another a piece of needlework representing a Roman pavement found in the park.

Attached to this old house is the story told in a note to Scott's "Rokeby." A midwife was fetched out of Berkshire at dead of night to deliver a woman, with a promise of high pay, but on condition that she should be blindfolded. After a rough ride on horseback behind the messenger, she arrived at a house, and was conducted upstairs, where she performed her duties to the lady; but no sooner were these ended than a man of ferocious aspect, seizing the newborn infant, threw it on the back of the fire that was blazing on the hearth, and destroyed it. The woman returned to her home, and long brooded in secret over her singular adventure; but the crime to which she had been privy at length produced its fruit. Her mind grew ill at ease, so, disregarding the bribe which she had received, she went to a magistrate and confessed to him all that she knew. She had reasons for believing that she could identify the house. On ascending the stairs she had counted the number of steps, and from the bedside she had brought away a piece of the curtain.

This story has been also preserved, with some slight variations, by Aubrey and others, and the tradition of the neighbourhood has for 200 years invariably connected it with Littlecote House and William Darell, commonly called "Wild Darell," then its proprietor. It has also been currently handed down that Darell was tried for his life, escaped by bribing the officers of the law, and especially Sir John Popham, by the gift to him of the estate; that afterwards, by a judgment of Heaven, he broke his neck over a stile out hunting, which stile still bears his name; and that the spectre of the wild huntsman and his hounds has occasionally terrified the natives.

An attempt was made a few years ago to disprove the whole story, which brought to light the actual statement in writing by the magistrate, Mr. Bridges, of Great Shefford, in Berks (about 7 m. off), who took down the deposition of the midwife on her death-bed. Her name was Mrs. Barnes, of Shefford. She does not say that she was blindfolded, but that, having been decoyed by a fictitious message pretending to come from Lady Knyvett, of Charlton House, she found herself, after being on horseback several hours in the night, at another house, and the lady she had to attend to was masked. She does not say what house this was, and seems not to have known. Her deposition gives the fullest particulars of the atrocity committed, but fails to identify Littlecote as the house and William Darell as the gentleman. The subsequent discovery, however, at Longleat, by the Rev. Canon Jackson, of Leigh Delamere, of an original letter dated 2nd January, 157⁸, has set the matter at rest. Sir John Thynne, of Longleat, had in his establishment a Mr. Bonham, whose sister was the mistress of W. Darell, and living at Littlecote. This letter is from Sir H. Knyvett, of Charlton, to Sir John Thynne, desiring "that Mr. Bonham will inquire of his sister touching her usage at William Darell's, the birth of her children, how many there were, and what became of them, for that the report of the murder of one of them was increasing foully, and would touch William Darell to the quick." How Darell escaped does not appear, but it is quite certain that in 1586 he sold the reversion of his Littlecote estate to Sir John Popham; that upon Darell's death in 1589 Sir John took possession of it, and was made a judge in 1592; further, that Darell was

certainly a spendthrift and in various serious difficulties from time to time, and that in 1583 he made a very suspicious offer of a bribe of £5000 to Lord Chancellor Bromley to be "his good friend."

William III. on his progress from Salisbury to London, after the conference with James's commissioners at Hungerford, December 8th, 1688, retired to Littlecote, where the following day, Sunday, December 9th, the commissioners dined. "A splendid assemblage had been invited to meet them. The old hall was crowded with peers and generals. Halifax seized the opportunity, with his dexterous diplomacy, of extracting from Burnet all that he knew and thought. 'Do you wish to get the King into your power?' said Halifax. 'Not at all,' was Burnet's reply; 'we would not do the least harm to his person.' 'And if he was to go away?' 'There is nothing so much to be wished.'"—*Macaulay*.

At Littlecote in 1730 one of the largest Roman pavements ever discovered in England was laid bare, and unfortunately speedily destroyed. It represented, among other devices, Apollo in the centre, and female figures riding on animals emblematic of the four seasons.

Adjoining Littlecote, in the parish of **Chilton Foliot**, is *Chilton House*. The church, E.E., of flint and stone, has a cross-legged effigy in a recess N. of the chancel, also a marble monument under glass to an infant Popham, an excellent E.E. font with the Baptism of Christ, the Washing of Feet, Samson and the Gates of Gaza, the Adoration of the Magi, the Agony in the Garden, and other figures upon it.

* **Ramsbury**, originally Ravensburg, *A.-S.* Hraefensbyrig, which was a seat of the bishops of Wiltshire for more than 100 years, from Bp. Ethelstan, 909 A.D., when the see of Ramsbury was separated from that of Winchester, to the Lotharingian Bp. Herman, by whom (1058 A.D.) Ramsbury was united to Sherborne, on the death of Bp. Elf-wold, and the united see was transferred to Old Sarum, 1075. The bishops are generally styled "*episcopi Corvoniensis Ecclesiæ*," the specific name being the Latinisation of Ravensbury. No less than three of these bishops became afterwards archbishops of Canterbury, viz., Odo (the hero of Brunanburh), Siric, and Ælfric, previously a monk of Cerne Abbas, the author of the well-known "Homilies." The quiet and tidy village shows small signs of its former ecclesiastical importance.

The ***church** is large, having a nave and aisles of great width and a long chancel, but is of no great beauty, the arcades very irregular and inelegant. The tower is low and heavy, with unusually large buttresses. The S. porch is modern (1892), and has a figure of the Blessed Virgin and Child. The roof of the nave is a good piece of oakwork. It contains a fine canopied 15th-century tomb, and a slab with Norman-French inscription to William de St. John, parson of Ramsbury (c. 1322), and stately monumental effigies of the Joneses, from the Attorney-General of Charles II.'s time, who purchased the estate, to the last male possessor. N. of the chancel, blocked off from the

church, is the "Darrel's Chapel," now used as a vestry, containing three tombs of that family. The large altar-tomb in the centre, of Purbeck marble, is assigned to William Darrel, sub-treasurer of England and sheriff of Wilts, temp. Richard II. There is a collection of Saxon tombstones in the church, one of which, standing erect, should be specially noticed. The font is excellent, and has figures of Noah and the Dove, Jonah, etc. Note specially the fishes carved inside the bowl. In the chancel is a piscina under an arch, with Purbeck marble shafts. There are holy-water stoups inside both N. and S. doors. **Ramsbury Manor** belongs to Sir Robert Burdett, Bart., and here the celebrated Sir Francis Burdett lies buried. The manor passed by marriage to the Burdetts from the Joneses. The house was designed by Webb, the son-in-law of Inigo Jones. It contains oak-panelled rooms, decorated with carvings of the school of Gibbons, family portraits, and a good full-length of Charles II. The park is a fine one, and the river Kennet flows through it, forming an artificial lake abounding in trout, in which *Tom d'Urfey* was invited every year to fish. This celebrated wit is said to have "angled for a trout the best of any man in England."

Aldbourne, 3 m. N.E. of Ramsbury, gave name to a *chase*, a favourite hunting-ground of King John, and in 1643 the scene of the defeat of the Earl of Essex by the King and Prince Rupert, who drove the Parliamentary general as far as Hungerford.

[*Wilts and Dorset.*]

In 1815, in making a road, some 60 skeletons, lying pell-mell, were disinterred, a ghastly memorial of that day's slaughter.

Aldbourne Ch. is a fine building with transeptal chapels, nearly wholly Perp., with a grand and beautiful tower, and Norm. S. doorway, and Trans.-Norm. arcade with pointed arches. There is one E.E. lancet in the chancel, but all the other windows are Perp. In the S. aisle is a monument to the Goddard family of Upham (1597), and an alabaster tomb of John Stone, prebendary of Salisbury and vicar of Aldbourne (1501).

[At **Froxfield**, 2 m. S. of Littlecote, is the *Somerset Hospital*, founded in 1686 by Sarah, Duchess of Somerset, affording an asylum at present to 16 widows of clergymen and laymen.]

3½ m. **Little Bedwyn**. The church has a Trans.-Norm. nave, with round arches on N., and pointed on S., the rest Perp., with a beautiful roof to W. aisle. The tower and spire are admirably proportioned.

1 m. W. the encampment of

Chisbury, an oval camp, taking its name from Cissa, the son of Ælla, of 15 acres, and one of the finest specimens of castrametation in the county. It is situated on the Wansdyke, and girt by a rampart 45 ft. in height, which in some places is double and in others triple. Within the enclosure is a chapel (**St. Martin's**) of the Dec. style, now used as a barn.

4 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Great Bedwyn Stat.*

Great Bedwyn, now, as in the time of Leland, "but a poore thing to syght," but under Saxon rule an important place, the residence of Cissa, ealdorman of Berks and Wiltshire. In 675 it was the scene of an engagement between the kings of Wessex and Mercia, in which the latter was defeated. Bedwyn was a parliamentary borough, returning 2 members till the first Reform Act. Among its representatives were Selden, the antiquary, and Sir Vicary Gibbs. It is still a market town.

The flint-built *Ch.*, restored 1854, is very interesting. It is cruciform, with a low central tower; the chancel E.E.; the transepts Dec., with rich flamboyant windows, built by Sir Adam de Stokke (d. 1312), who lies in the S. transept in an arched recess containing a cross-legged effigy in chain-mail. Another recess contains a Purbeck slab, with an incised cross, to Sir Roger de Stokke. The nave arcade is Trans.-Norm., with curiously carved capitals, all different. The interior of the chancel is very imposing. There are fine Dec. piscinas there and in the transept. The encaustic tiles deserve examination. In the chancel is a fine altar-tomb, with an effigy in full armour, to Sir John Seymour, of Wulfall (father of Queen Jane Seymour and the Lord Protector Somerset), brought hither in 1590, from Easton Priory, by his grandson Edward, Earl of Hertford. There is also a monument to Frances, daughter of Robert Devereaux, Earl of Essex, and widow of

William, second Duke of Somerset, and a brass memorial to John Seymour, eldest son of Sir John. Great Bedwyn was the birthplace of *Thomas Willis*, 1621, the anatomist, and founder of a philosophical society at Oxford, from which arose the Royal Society of London. He was buried in Westminster Abbey. About 1 m. S. of this village is the height of *Castle Hill*, so called from an entrenchment, in which have been found large quantities of tesserae, bricks, and other evidences of Roman habitation.

6 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. I. m. to l. is *East Grafton* (Rte. p.).

7 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. Close to the rly. on l. are the small remains of **Wulfall**, the Ufela of Domesday, commonly but wrongly changed into *Wolfhall*, which belonged in early times to the Esturmies, wardens of Savernake Forest, whose heiress Maud brought it to the Seymours, temp. Henry VI. Sir John Seymour, father of Lady Jane Seymour, Queen of Henry VIII. and mother of Edward VI., lived here. The old house was partly destroyed (c. 1662), and its materials used in building the first Tottenham House, and nothing now remains but the "Laundry," a picturesque building with tall chimneys at the foot of the hill. Adjoining the farmhouse is an ancient barn, which traditionally was the scene of a bridal feast on the King's marriage with Jane Seymour in 1536, on the day after the execution of the unfortunate Anne Boleyn. In August, 1539, the royal widower with his court came to Wulfall on a visit to Edward Seymour, Earl of

Hertford, his brother-in-law, afterwards Lord Protector. He was again there in 1543. In proceeding from Wulfall to Tottenham the traveller obtains a good view of the steep side of Martensell Hill, 947 ft. high.

$8\frac{1}{2}$ m. ★ **Savernake Stat.** Branch line rt. by Marlborough to Swindon; l. to Ludgershall and Andover, Rte. 3. For Savernake Forest and Tottenham Park see same Rte.

1 m. S. of the stat. is

Burbage, a picturesque, straggling village. The church, rebuilt 1854 excepting the tower, contains a memorial window to Bp. Denison, and another to 4 soldiers, natives of this parish, who fell in the Crimea. The S. aisle was added in 1876 in memory of Archdeacon Stanton. Enormous sycamores shelter the church on the S.W.

The rly. continues from Savernake Stat. up the valley of the Avon between the escarpment of Marlborough Downs N. and Salisbury Plain S.

$10\frac{3}{4}$ m. the flint and stone *Ch.* and village of **Wootton Rivers**, on the other side of the river.

$1\frac{3}{4}$ m. S. is the village of **Easton Royal**, on the round chalk hill above which are a circular entrenchment and British village. To the S. are also Milton Hill, with a group of barrows, and Pewsey Downs, on which are traces of British villages.

$13\frac{3}{4}$ m. ★ **Pewsey Stat.**, a small town pleasantly situated on the Avon, between which and Savernake the huge mass of Martensell Hill rises like a wall to the rt.

The *Ch.* is a fine and interesting building, with an arcade of massive square piers and plain unmoulded arches, but much of the work is of the 13th century. The oblong tower is Perp., and groined within. The sedilia, piscina, and font all deserve notice. The communion rails, carved by the present rector (Canon Hon. B. Pleydell-Bouverie), are made from the oak timbers of the *San Josef*, boarded by Nelson off Cape St. Vincent. The timbers of the roof of the organ-chamber and vestry were part of the roof of the original refectory of the Augustinian priory of Ivychurch, near Salisbury, taken down in 1889. 2 m. N.W. is the pretty village of *Wilcot*.

The chalk range is here divided by the **Vale of Pewsey**, which separates the Marlborough Downs from Salisbury Plain. *Martensell* and *St. Ann's* are elevated points on the steep escarpment, commanding a most extensive prospect, including Salisbury Plain and the forest of Savernake.

EXCURSIONS FROM PEWSEY.

(a) To *Martensell Hill* and *Wansdyke*.

Martensell is situated about 3 m. S. from Marlborough. The name is a corruption of the A.-S. "mæর্থorn," "the boundary thorn," and has nothing to do with St. Martin. It is a fine bold hill, descending sheer on the E., and throwing out a spur to the S.W. The ditch and rampart of a camp gird the summit, enclosing an area of 31 acres, and commanding a distant view of

the entrenched heights of Sidbury, Clearbury, Bratton, and Cley Hill, of Salisbury Spire, and Alfred's Tower; on the N.E. slope of the hill, banks and hollows indicate the site of a British village. If we proceed W. from Martensell along this ridge of high land, we shall reach in succession **Huish Hill**, remarkable for extensive vestiges of a British village; **Knap Hill**, crowned by an earthwork of high antiquity, enclosing 2 tumuli, with a third outside it: on this hill is the modern white horse described p. 85; **Walker's Hill**, above Alton Priors, conspicuous by its long barrow, known as "Adam's Grave," and beyond Walker's Hill, 5 m. W. of Martensell, **St. Ann's**, the highest point of the Marlborough Downs, and known throughout Wilts and the neighbouring counties as the site of *Tan Hill Fair* (i.e., St. Ann's Hill; cf. *Tooley Street*, Southwark, from St. Olaf, and *tawdry*, from St. Awdry or Ethelthryth), held annually for pleasure and business on the 6th of August (St. Ann's Day, old style). On the projecting buttress of St. Ann's S. rests the elliptical camp of **Rybury**, formed by a single bank and ditch, and probably of Celtic origin. On his march northwards, before the battle of Naseby, Lord Goring appointed Tan Hill as the rendezvous for the Royalist forces, whence he marched to Marlborough. Along this northern verge of the hill runs that interesting relic of antiquity the ***Wansdyke**, or Woden's dyke,

seen in its pristine state on the downs between Savernake Forest (W. of Martensell) and Hedington. It was long considered to have been constructed by the Belgæ, as they gradually expelled the earlier tribes before them, and, like other ditches of the same district, the Old Ditch N. of Amesbury, and Bokerly Ditch S. of Salisbury, has the fosse to the N. This theory has, however, been completely upset by the careful investigations of General Pitt-Rivers published in his magnificent volume on "The Wansdyke and Bokerley Dyke," in which he briefly sums up the subject as follows:—

"The Wansdyke, running from near the Bristol Channel by Bath to beyond Savernake Forest, and then turning in the direction of Andover, is equal in length to the great border entrenchment between Newcastle and Carlisle, namely, about sixty miles. The other dyke, called Bokerly, is about four miles in length, and the two together, though not continuous works, defend the whole south-west promontory of England, including Wilts, Somerset, Dorset, Devonshire, Cornwall, and part of Hants, from an attack from the north and east. Unlike Silchester, Wroxeter, Sorbiodunum, and other ancient towns, the Wansdyke is a continuous, and not an isolated, work, and defends a great extent of territory. The determination of its date consequently supplies evidence of some great war, in which the whole of the south-western portion of the country was arrayed against the rest of Britain. It refers to some missing page in the history

"For a mighty mound sith long he did remain

Betwixt the Mercian's rule and the West Saxon reign"—*Drayton*.

of the country, and is on that account of paramount importance. Although it is not certain that the whole of the Wansdyke was erected at one time, and it is of very different magnitude in different places, the fact of its being in one continuous line is very much in favour of its having been one work of defence. In point of relief, both the Wiltshire dykes are equal to, or exceed, that of the Border Wall and the Firth Wall, and though not equal to the Limes Germanicus or Pfahlgraben in extent, they far exceed it in height, and are therefore more likely to have been intended for actual defence than merely for border boundaries. Like all four, the Wansdyke is strengthened at intervals by forts along its line, and has a very great resemblance to the other entrenchments in its general arrangement; differing from them only in this, that, whereas the German and the North British entrenchment are known to have been erected by the Romans, the origin of the Wiltshire entrenchments has until now been wrapped in mystery. They have occupied the attention of every antiquary who has written upon this part of Britain since the time of Aubrey and Stukeley. Numerous conjectures have been put forward to account for them; the most generally received opinion, and that favoured by Stukeley and Dr. Guest, being that they were pre-Roman and Belgic. But no attempt has been made to put opinions to the test by the only means capable of affording actual proof, namely, by rampart digging. The result of my excavations has been to narrow the

field of inquiry very considerably. Within the limits clearly defined in the present volume" (vol. iii.), "the date of both works has been fixed upon unassailable evidence. Both works, at the places where I excavated them, are Roman or post-Roman. The Belgic theory has been completely overthrown, and although the question of a Romano-British or Saxon origin is still open for future inquiry, some probabilities only pointing towards the former hypothesis, no reasonable man can ever again assert that either of these dykes, at the spots where I examined them, is pre-Roman, or that the Bokerly dyke was erected previously to the time of the Emperor Honorius, that is to say, previously to the time when the Roman legions evacuated Britain."

(b) *The Avon Valley to Amesbury* (16 m.).

A very agreeable detour may be made from Pewsey down the valley of the Avon to *Amesbury* (Rte. 8), 16 m. The road is good, and the scenery, though possessing no striking features, of a quiet English beauty. The valley now expands to a dell, now narrows to a winding glen. The road runs for a considerable distance by the side of the stream, now descending to its very edge, now ascending half-way to the summit of the treeless down, and diversified with a picturesque village and church at almost every mile.

Leaving Pewsey and skirting the rounded sides of Pewsey Down, we reach 2 m. **Manningford Abbots** and **Manningford**

Braose (or Bruce, as it is now called). The *Ch.* of the latter (probably of Saxon date) has an apse, and contains a tablet to Mary, wife of Edward Nicholas, and daughter of Thomas Lane, of Bentley, Staffordshire, who, with her elder sister Jane, aided Charles II.'s escape after the battle of Worcester. **Manningford Bohune** is on the Avon W. of the last-named place. Crossing the Avon at Woodbridge, we reach in 2 m. **Rushall**, a picturesque spot at the foot of the downs, where once stood a splendid mansion of the Poores, now pulled down. The *Ch.* has a Norm. tower, and other portions of that style. *Rushall Park* is the property of Lord Normanton. The land has been divided into farms, but much fine timber remains.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. up the Avon is **Charlton**. The *Ch.* is of flint and stone, with some good screenwork, and a mural brass to William Chancery (ob. 1424). Here was born Stephen Duck, "the thrasher," whose poetry having recommended him to the notice of Queen Caroline, he entered Holy Orders, and became preacher at Kew and rector of Byfleet. He drowned himself in melancholy madness at Reading, 1750, bequeathing the rent of a small piece of land to be expended in an annual dinner for threshers.

Rushall is followed by **Upavon**, now a small village, but a market town in the time of Edward II.'s favourite, De Spenser, to whom it belonged. The once celebrated demagogue, "Orator Hunt," was born 1773 at Weddington Farm, in this parish. The *Ch.*

is large, E.E., with a square Norm. tower, and Trans.-Norm. chancel arch with dog's-tooth carving. This was once the seat of a cell of the abbey of Fontanelle in Normandy, afterwards granted by Henry VI. to that of Ivychurch. On the top of the hill 2 m. W. is

Casterley Camp, an area of 64 acres surrounded by a single vallum 28 ft. in height. It was probably a British town. "It will be found," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "to be one of the most original and unaltered works of the British era which our county can produce."

2 m. brings us to **Chisenbury de la Foley**, a hamlet in Enford parish. Chisenbury Priory, now the property of Miss Chafyn Grove, was the residence of Henry Grove, executed at Exeter, 1655, for an attempted rising in favour of Charles II. In the grounds are two parallel lines of earthworks known as the "Gladiator's Walk." 1 m. E. is **Chisenbury Camp**, a small earthwork.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. by S. distant, the small camp of **Lidbury**, girt by a rampart 40 ft. high. The **Twin Barrows** are 1 m. to the S.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. further down the Avon is the village of **Enford** (Avonford), one of the meets of the late Mr. Assheton Smith's hounds. The *Ch.* was one of the finest in the diocese, with a lofty spire, which was struck by lightning in 1817, and fell, crushing the *Ch.* The whole has been rebuilt. The country round is studded with numerous barrows.

1 m. S. is **Fittleton**, where is

a good small church with a spire, containing a singular punning brass inscription to the Jays, and a Norm. font. The road here crosses the river to **Nether Avon**, taken by Henry III. from Gilbert Basset for adhering to R. Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, and given to Peter de Maulay, causing a great popular outcry. The *Ch.* retains traces of its Norm. structure in the chancel and belfry arches and W. doorway. This was for 2 years the curacy of *Sydney Smith*, who is said to have here undergone the most imminent risk of starvation, both mental and bodily. "Once a week," writes Lady Holland, "a butcher's cart came over from Salisbury; it was then only that he could obtain any meat, and he often dined on a mess of potatoes sprinkled with a little ketchup. Too poor to command books, his only resource was the squire, and his only relaxation long walks over these interminable plains, in one of which he narrowly escaped being buried in a snow-drift."

1 m. lower down on the opposite bank stands **Figheledean**. The *Ch.*, prettily surrounded with trees, is more considerable than most of its neighbours, which are mostly small flint buildings, and has been well restored. It has Norm. portions, and contains cross-legged effigies, probably of the Hussey family, and in the chancel some monuments of the Poores.

1 m. further brings us to **Milston**, a group of very pretty cottages, where the river makes a loop. This manor was forfeited by John, Lord de Zouch, for

having sided with Richard III., and granted by Henry VII. to his uncle, Jasper, Duke of Bedford, son of Owen Tudor and Queen Katharine. The *Ch.* is small, but not without interest. The old rectory in which the celebrated Joseph Addison was born, May 1st, 1672, has been pulled down, and a new house erected a few yards from the former site. Addison's father, Lancelot Addison, was made rector of the parish on the loss of his chaplaincy at Tangier.

On the opposite side of the Avon is **Durrington**, where the *walls* were considered by Sir R. C. Hoare to mark a British village. There are many barrows on the downs near by, including Knighton Long Barrow. The *Ch.* is fair, of flint and stone, and contains an old pulpit and seats of oak. The S. aisle is Norm. Again crossing the stream, we come $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to **Bulford**, with its pretty church, and thence it is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to Amesbury (Rte. 8).]

Returning to the main route, we reach

$16\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Woodborough** Stat. This is an increasing place, with a handsome new church. 2 m. N., immediately under Walker Hill, "nestling beneath the downs," lie the little villages of **Alton Barnes**, or Berners, and **Alton Priors**. The former manor was bought by William of Wykeham, and bestowed on his foundation of New College. Among its rectors may be named the Rev. W. Crowe, 1812-29 (author of "Lewesdon Hill" and other poems, and for many years

public orator at Oxford, in which office he introduced the allied sovereigns on their visit in 1814), and Augustus W. Hare, author of "Sermons to a Country Congregation," preached in these churches, and with his brother, Archdeacon Julius C. Hare, of the "Guesses at Truth." On the S.W. slope of the chalk down is a white horse, cut in 1812 at the expense of Mr. Pile, of the Manor Farm, which may be seen from Old Sarum. Its dimensions are—height, 180 ft.; length, 165 ft.; circumference of eye, 12 ft.; superficial area, 700 yds.

17 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. is **Beechingstoke**, with a small Dec. *Ch.*, 1 m. S. of which is **Marden**. The *Ch.* has a fine Norm. chancel arch and S. door, and a W. tower, originally 15th-century, lowered 7 ft. in 1617 and rebuilt in 1885. There is here an entrenchment, the site of a British village. On Wivelisford (or Wilsford) Hill, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further S., are entrenchments known as **Broadbury Banks**. The *Ridgeway* runs along the crest of the hill, dotted with barrows on each side. From Broadbury a British *trackway* struck N. over the vale by Broad Street and Honey Street, and climbed the Marlborough Downs between Walker Hill and Knap Hill, crossing the Wansdyke at a point where some large sarsen stones are still standing.

The old cottages in this neighbourhood, with their long roofs of thatch and frames of woodwork, are exceedingly picturesque.]

19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. is **All Cannings** (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.), with its fine cruciform *Ch.*,

with a square Perp. tower rising at the intersection. There is a S. chantry chapel, with a rich battlement bearing the arms of Beauchamp and St. Amand, probably built by Sir J. Baynton. The very beautiful chancel was built in 1867 from the designs of T. H. Wyatt by the rector, the Rev. J. A. Methuen, and his sons, "as a memorial of a happy home." The *Manor-house* is now a farmhouse, and thoroughly modernised, but some few moulded timbers may belong to the 14th century, when licences of crenellation were issued to the Bishop of Salisbury. Coleridge was a visitor of the Rev. T. A. Methuen in 1817. 2 m. S.W., nearer the rly., is the small but very interesting Dec. church of **Etchilhampton** (pronounced *Ashelton*), with a Norm. font and an altar-tomb, the face bearing 12 small figures, male and female, carved in relief, which bears the effigies of a knight and his lady (c. 1400), perhaps one of the family of Malwyn, the lords of the manor.

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. is **Bishops Cannings** (more conveniently visited from Devizes, 3 m.), with its beautiful cruciform E.E. ***Church**, one of the most interesting churches in the county. It has a central tower of 2 stories, and stone spire. The roof, aisles, and clerestory of nave are Perp. additions. The E., W., and transept windows are fine E.E. triplets. The nave is of 4 bays, with low, thick columns. The S. porch is vaulted, with a Dec. doorway; the chancel is vaulted. The *Ernle* chantry chapel, attached to S. transept, dedicated

to "Our Lady of the Bower," contains a large monument to Michael Ernle (d. 1571). The E. window and others are filled with glass by Wailes. In N. transept is an almost unique piece of furniture, a very singular movable chair, still called, for want of a better name, a "confessional chair," more probably a "carrel" for meditation. On the back panel is painted a hand outstretched, with inscriptions on the palm and fingers suggestive of repentance. The oldest part of the church is the little sacristy, with priests' room over, at the N.E. corner of the chancel. It once had a bell-turret. The organ was originally given by William Bayley, a native, who sailed round the world with Captain Cook.

In the 17th century, when old Aubrey tells us "the parish would have challenged all England for music, football, and singing," it boasted of a musical vicar, one George Ferraby, who entertained James I. and Anne of Denmark with a rustic masque on the occasion of their visit to Bath. The King was received at "the Bush, Coatefield," the Queen, in April, 1613, at the Wansdyke, when the vicar appeared as an old bard, with his scholars "in shepherds' weeds," who sang a four-part song, composed by himself, "to the great liking and content of the Queen and her company."

23 m. ★ **DEVIZES** Stat. (Pop. 6426), a market and assize town, a municipal and formerly a parliamentary borough. It stands nearly in the centre of the county, of which it may be con-

sidered the secondary capital, and the chief town of North Wilts. It has one of the largest corn markets in the west of England. The manufacture of cloth, for which it was once famous, ceased to be carried on in 1828. The G.W. Rly. affords land, and the Kennet and Avon Canal water, communication both with the E. and W. The canal, commenced in 1794 and completed in 1805 at a great outlay, is carried over the hill to the N.W. of Devizes by a series of 39 locks. Devizes forms a curve on the top of a hill, flattened at top so as to form a table land of considerable extent and elevation. The town stands 500 ft. above the sea, and the situation is cold and exposed, but salubrious.

"At Devizes the escarpment of the greensand is very steep, and is deeply cut into by ravines, two of which so nearly meet at their heads as to leave a peninsular eminence with steep sides attached by a narrow isthmus to the high ground behind. The peninsula was an admirable site for a castle, and on the high ground behind grew up a town in the form of a semicircle, the curve being marked by the line of New Park Street and Bride-well Street."—*Dr. Fitton*.

The main street is wide and airy, and the market-place spacious, and ornamented by the *cross* erected in 1814 by Lord Sidmouth, as a mark of esteem for the borough, of which he had been for 30 years Recorder, and which he had represented in 6 successive parliaments. But Leland's observation still holds good, "The beauty of the town of Vies is all in one strete," and

that "it standeth on a ground somewhat clyvinge," but it is no longer "most occupied by clothiers." As in Fuller's days, "the market is very celebrate, and it is the best and biggest town for trading in the shire." The oldest charter of the town is that of the Empress Maud.

The name of Devizes has been a subject of much discussion among the learned. Till a comparatively recent time it was always known as "*the Devizes*," a corruption of which, "*the Vies*," is not yet quite extinct. Its Latin appellation, *Castrum* or *Villa Divisarum*, or simply *Divisæ*, and *ad Divisas*, "at the divisions," clearly shows the origin of the name. The only question remaining is what the divisions or boundaries were on which the town was built. Dr. Guest remarks that "Devizes stands in the middle of the Wansdyke, and the probability is that the district, where the Roman road from London to Bath stooped down into Welsh territory (*i.e.*, territory occupied by original inhabitants of Britain), was known as *Divisæ*, *the borders*, and that in the 12th century, when Devizes was founded by Bp. Roger, it took its name from the district." Canon Jackson, however, informs us ("Wiltshire Collections") that in the reign of Henry I., when Devizes was founded, the three adjoining manors (*viz.*, Rowde, Cannings, and Potterne) met precisely at the point at which the castle was built. This appears to be the true solution of the problem.

Devizes, which does not appear in Domesday, owes its origin, as

we have said, to the castle erected here, temp. Henry I., by his chancellor, the warlike Bp. Roger of Sarum, that great builder of churches and castles. The first prisoner of note it received was the ill-fated Robert, the Conqueror's eldest son. On the outbreak of the struggle between Stephen and Matilda, Roger garrisoned and provisioned the castle for the Empress, which was held by his nephew, the Bishop of Ely. Roger and his other nephew, the Bishop of Lincoln, having fallen into the King's hands, he proceeded with all speed to Devizes, where he imprisoned the prelates, one in a cowshed, the other in a wretched hovel, and threatened worse unless the castle was surrendered. The castle having thus fallen into Stephen's hands, he took it from the see of Sarum and made it a royal fortress. During the course of the civil war it was alternately taken and retaken. In 1140 Robert Fitzherbert, a mercenary of the Earl of Gloucester, scaled the battlements by ladders made of leather, and, having surprised the sleeping garrison, seized it for Maud. It again fell into the King's power; but the next year, after Stephen's captivity, Count Hervé, who held it for the King, after a long siege by the peasantry who had risen against him, surrendered it to the Empress. After she had been compelled to raise the siege of Winchester (September 14th, 1141), Maud took refuge here, whence, according to popular tradition, she was conveyed in a coffin to Gloucester; but she returned in 1142 and fixed her temporary abode in the castle. It was held by John during Richard I.'s absence in Palestine. Hubert de Burgh, Earl of Kent, who was imprisoned here by Henry III., escaped by favour of part of the garrison, and fled for sanctuary to St. John's

Church, whence he was dragged by the governor and conveyed back to the castle; but the threat of the Bishop of Salisbury and the dread of excommunication for the violation of sanctuary prevailed, and he was conveyed back to the church. It was the abode of two royal hostages, sons of Charles de Blois, great-nephews of the King of France, in Edward III.'s reign. The castle formed part of the dowry of several of our queens—Philippa, Good Queen Anne, Margaret of Anjou, Katherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn (who visited Devizes in 1530), and Katharine Howard. It was the occasional residence of Duke Humphrey of Gloucester. The castle was granted by Edward VI. to Lord Seymour of Sudeley, and afterwards came to William, Earl of Montgomery.

The **Castle** stands to the W. of the town, behind the Bear Inn, and is now private property. The walls have almost entirely perished, but the ditch and mound of the keep may still be seen. A path winds up through the trees to a modern castellated house on the summit. The ruins remained in Leland's time, who speaks of "dyvers goodly toures all goyng to ruine." "Such a piece of castle wall so costly and so strongly was never afore set up by any byshope of England." After this the castle became a stone quarry for the vicinity, from which Bromham Hall and the lodge at Spye Park were built. The keep was standing in Charles I.'s time, when it was besieged by the Parliament in 1643, and fortified by the King, and after the fall of Bristol stormed and taken by Cromwell, September 23rd, 1645, with the loss on his part of five men. He remained

here three days, and marched hence to Donnington Castle, near Newbury. The castle was afterwards "slighted," *i.e.*, destroyed by order of Parliament. Stukeley wrote in 1723, "The castle is ignobly mangled and every day destroyed by persons who care not to leave a stone standing, though for a wall to their gardens." Mr. Leach in 1839 brought to light, by excavation, fragments of the walls, the foundations of the keep and a dungeon pit, perhaps Hubert de Burgh's prison. The street known as "*the Brittox*" derives its name from *Bretesque*, *i.e.*, a wooden tower placed on a draw-bridge.

After the site of the castle, the most interesting objects in Devizes are its two noble old *churches*, both deserving careful attention.

***St. John's**, near the castle, is one of the most interesting in the county. It was originally a cruciform Norm. church with central tower, erected towards the middle of the 12th century, probably by Bp. Roger. The chancel was the sanctuary of Hubert de Burgh. The nave was rebuilt (c. 1450). It is a well-proportioned lofty building. It had originally a waggon-roof, unwisely replaced by a collar-beam roof in a recent restoration, when the church was lengthened. The N. and S. chapels to the chancel are Late Perp. In the hollow moulding of the E. window of the N. chapel is the inscription: "Orate p. bono statu Ricardi Lamb." The S. chapel is excellent Late Perp., with embattled parapet enriched with Tudor roses. The N. wall

of the chancel retains one of the original Norm. windows, traces of which are also to be seen both externally and internally in the transepts. The string-courses of corbel-heads in the old outside walls of the chancel well deserve attention. The massive tower rests, like that of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, on 2 semi-circular and 2 pointed arches, the transepts being narrower than the nave. The lantern, now hidden by a ceiling, is ornamented with a rich intersecting arcade. It is reached by a cylindrical turret at the N.W. angle. The chancel, which retains its Norm. vaulting, is of two bays, divided by a transverse arch springing from richly carved capitals. The walls are ornamented by an intersecting arcade. Both the chapels have rich ceilings of oak, and panelled arches and canopied niches. That to the S. may be ascribed to Richard Beauchamp, of Bromham, Lord St. Amand, temp. Henry VII. There is a lofty niche capping the apex of the gable. In the church are several monuments to the Suttons and Heathcotes, including one to Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Lord Mayor of London (d. 1768).

St. Mary's, in the N.E. skirt of the town, commands a view of Roundway Hill. This was also a Norm. church like St. John's, and the chancel is of the original structure, with groining and transversal arch, but much spoilt by Perp. windows. The nave has been rebuilt in Perp., and is a good but plain specimen of the style, with lofty clerestory and elaborately carved roof bearing the following inscription: "Orate

pro aia Willi Smyth, qui ista eccliam fieri fecit, qui obiit primo die mensis junii anno dni millo cccmo xxxvi." The chancel arch is panelled, and has a fine niche on either side of it, also hagioscopes N. and S. Above the arch is the doorway to a former rood-screen. The east gable of the nave, as at the Beauchamp Chapel at St. John's, is surmounted by a lofty niche containing a statue of the Blessed Virgin and Child. The tower is of stately proportions. The S. porch is a good specimen of Trans. (c. 1200; repaired 1612).

St. James's, a chapel-of-ease to Bishops Cannings, rebuilt in 1834, except the fine pinnacled tower, the upper part of which bears the marks of Waller's cannon-balls, stands at the E. end of the town on the green.

Devizes contributed martyrs to the persecutions which ushered in the Reformation. William Prior, of this town, was burnt at Salisbury, 1507; John Bent, of Urchfont, was burnt here, 1533; John Maundrell, of Rowde, after having recanted in Henry VIII.'s time, and done penance in the market-place here, gained heart, and in 1556 was burnt with two friends between Salisbury and Wilton.

The *Town Hall*, built by Baldwin, of Bath, 1808, with a segmental Ionic portico, contains an assembly room, council chamber, etc., with a bust of Lord Sidmouth, and portraits of George III. and his queen in their coronation robes, after Reynolds. The old *Town Hall*, a stately building with a pedimental Ionic front,

was erected in the last century as a supplementary Guildhall. At the S.E. corner of the market-place is the *market-house*, with a clock-tower, opened in 1835. The *County Assize Court*, erected in 1835 by T. H. Wyatt, has a pedimental portico of 4 Ionic columns. The assizes, transferred from Salisbury, were first held here in August, 1835.

The *Corn Exchange*, of the Corinthian order, is 142 ft. long, and affords standing room for nearly 3000 persons. The façade, 46 ft. in length, is ornamented with appropriate carving and a statue of Ceres. It was opened 1857.

In the *market-place*, an extensive triangular area, stands the ***Market Cross**, erected from the designs of Benjamin Wyatt, the son of James Wyatt, "the destructive," in 1814, at the cost of Lord Sidmouth. It bears two inscriptions, one commemorating Lord Sidmouth's "grateful attachment to the town of Devizes"; the other, on the E. panel, runs as follows:—"On Thursday, the 25th of January, 1753, Ruth Pierce, of Potterne, in this county, agreed, with three other women, to buy a sack of wheat in the market, each paying her due proportion towards the same. One of these women, in collecting the several quotas of money, discovered a deficiency, and demanded of Ruth Pierce the sum which was wanting to make good the amount. Ruth Pierce protested that she had paid her share, and said 'she wished she might drop down dead if she had not.' She rashly repeated this awful wish, when, to the consternation

and terror of the surrounding multitude, she instantly fell down and expired, having the money concealed in her hand." The adjoining fountain and statue were erected in 1879 to the memory of Rt. Hon. G. Sotheron-Estcourt, M.P., the founder of the Wilts Friendly Society, and chiefly by the gifts of its members.

The ***Museum** and library of the *Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Society*, founded 1853, under the patronage of the Marquis of Lansdowne, have since 1874 been placed in a convenient building in Long Street, near St. John's Church. The museum contains many objects of interest, especially the magnificent ***Stourhead collection** of urns, celts, cups, ornaments, and other objects discovered in the Wilts barrows, formed by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, deposited here by the present baronet. This collection will repay careful examination. There is also a fine collection of British birds, including several bustards. It also contains the collections of the late John Britton, consisting of original drawings of Salisbury Cathedral and of the Wiltshire churches, illustrated copies of Mr. Britton's works relating to this county, and his Celtic cabinet, enclosing models of Stonehenge and Avebury, and a remarkable *collection of fossils*, formed by Mr. William Cunnington.

The father of *Sir Thomas Lawrence* (b. 1769 at Bristol, where his father was then landlord of the White Lion) was landlord of the Bear, and was famous as "the only man on the

road for warm rooms, soft beds, and for reading Milton" (Graves' "Columella"), often mentioned by tourists with praise, together with his "ingenious family." Madame D'Arblay, who lodged at the Black Bear with Mrs. Thrale in April, 1780, expresses herself as "much pleased with our hostess, who seemed something above her station." She was, in fact, the daughter of the Rev. W. Read, vicar of Tenbury. The "public-spirited" landlord of the Bear erected at his own expense signal-posts 12 ft. high, painted white, to guide travellers by night over Salisbury Plain. He fell into embarrassed circumstances, and left Devizes for Weymouth soon after Mrs. Thrale's visit. At the Bear the youthful artist first learnt to draw likenesses, as well as to repeat poetry for the entertainment of customers. His father would introduce him to his visitors with "Gentlemen, here's my son; will you have him recite from the poets, or take your portraits?" His first picture was painted here when he was about 7 years old. Devizes was the birthplace of *Joseph Alleine*, the eminent Nonconformist minister of Taunton (b. 1633). He was several times imprisoned for preaching, and is best known by his "Alarm to the Unconverted." *Robert Nicholas*, of All Cannings, M.P. for Devizes in the Long Parliament, was an active manager of the impeachment of Laud, whom he is accused of having treated with "unseemly insolence and insult, using foul and gross language." His name appears as one of Charles I.'s judges, but he prudently abstained from attending the trial. He subse-

quently became a Baron of the Exchequer under Cromwell.

The once notorious demagogue, "Orator Hunt," married the daughter of the landlord of the Bear Inn, and became chairman of the ordinary there, which gave him frequent opportunities for declamation. Devizes was the scene of not a few of his turbulent meetings.

Devizes is the headquarters of the 3rd battalion Duke of Edinburgh's Wiltshire Regiment (Royal Wiltshire Militia). Gibbon, the historian, visited Devizes in 1761, when captain of the Hants Militia, and entertained an unpleasing recollection of that "populous and disorderly town."

1 m. S. is the *Wilts County Asylum*, a plain but handsome building, by T. H. Wyatt, opened in 1851.

New Park, N., under Roundway Down (now called Roundway Park), was built by S. Wyatt. The park is commended by Repton as combining "all the materials of natural landscape." It was the seat of William Sutton, Lord Sidmouth's brother-in-law.

EXCURSIONS FROM DEVIZES.

(a) To **Bishops Canning** (3 m.) (see p. 176).

(b) To **Potterne** (1½ m.) (see p. 206).

(c) To **Avebury** (9 m.) and **Silbury** (see pp. 87-99).

(d) To **Bradford-on-Avon** by rail (see p. 138).

(c) To **Roundway Hill**, which rises immediately from Devizes, and was the scene of the defeat of Sir William Waller by Lord Wilmot, 1643. After the battle of Lansdown the Royalists, under the Marquis of Hertford and Prince Maurice, retreated to Devizes, closely followed by Waller, who soon invested the town and erected a battery against it. He, however, was repulsed in many desperate efforts to force an entrance, and the news soon arrived that Lord Wilmot was approaching with 1500 horse to the succour of the besieged. Waller drew off his men to oppose the coming foe, and took up a position on Roundway Down; but when he had descried the advancing troop and perceived the smallness of their number, he descended from the hill and charged with his cavalry, confident of success. He had, however, much miscalculated the strength of the Royalists, for, after a severe struggle, his troopers were overthrown, and his infantry, assailed on one side by Wilmot, and on the other by the garrison of Devizes, were obliged to surrender. Waller himself put spurs to his horse and fled towards Bristol (from which this was styled by the Royalists "Runaway Hill"), leaving behind him his artillery, ammunition, and baggage, and 2000 men, either killed or prisoners. The view from the brow of Roundway should not be missed by any visitor to Devizes. A path leads from the church of St. Mary to the *Quaker's Walk*, which, skirting the grounds of *Roundway Park*, seat of the Colstons, runs direct to the foot of the hill, whence the ascent is

steep to the top. In a westerly direction the prospect is very extensive; to the S. it is limited by the chalk range of Salisbury Plain; E. it embraces the bold heights which abut upon Pewsey Vale; and N. it extends to the blue distance of North Wilts and Gloucestershire. If inclined to extend his ramble, the pedestrian will find, a little way to the N.W., the earthworks of **Oliver's Castle**, marked by a straggling group of beech-trees, and N.E., at the distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ m., the **Wansdyke**, nearly as perfect as on the day when it was first thrown up.

Leaving Devizes,

$24\frac{3}{4}$ m. is **Rowde**, 1 m. N.; the *Ch.*, rebuilt in 1833, except the tower and part of the chancel, contains a font designed by Sir Digby Wyatt, who was born here.

2 m. S. is **Poulshot** (or Paul's Holt), the houses, interspersed with trees, standing picturesquely round the village green.

Dr. Blayney, Hebrew Professor at Oxford (d. 1801), was incumbent here. Izaak Walton, the son of the famous angler, was rector here in 1688, and hither Bp. Ken, his uncle, retired from Wells in 1688, "with all my coach-horses and as many of my saddle-horses as I well could," to prevent their being seized by the invading force of William of Orange. When the "great storm" swept over the county in November, 1703, which brought down the chimneys of the episcopal palace of Wells, and crushed the intruding Bp. Kidder and his wife. Ken was sleeping in his nephew's rectory at Poulshot,

and escaped all harm, "although," as he writes in a private letter, "the beam which supported the roof over my head was shaken out to that degree that it had but half an inch to hold, so that it was a wonder it could hold together."

The *Ch.* is a picturesque little building (unrestored), with two low side windows. The tower is modern, erected in memory of the wife of a former rector, Canon Fisher.

27 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Seend** Stat. A manor-house belonged to Humphry de Bohun, Earl of Hereford and Essex, who, 1347, received a licence to fortify it. It is now a seat of the Awdrys. The manor in later times belonged to Lord Berners, the translator of Froissart, who directed his executors to sell it "for his soul's health."

Beautiful chalcedonized casts of ammonites are found in the ferruginous sand in this parish. The view from the churchyard is pretty. In the *Ch.*, formerly a chapel-of-ease to Melksham, is a brass to John Stokys and his wife, 1498. The N. aisle is said to have been built by him; and in the moulding of its W. window is his device, a pair of shears. Many Walloon families settled about here, temp. Henry VII. The same vein of iron ore as at Westbury has been found and worked here, but the operations are now suspended.

31 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. is **Holt Junction**, where lines diverge N.E. by Melksham to the main line of the Great Western (Rte. 1), and S.W. to Trowbridge (Rte. 4).

34 m. **Bradford** (Rte. 4).

From Bradford the rly. follows the course of the Avon. The valley soon becomes very narrow, hemmed in between hills, in some places rising almost precipitously, clothed with hanging woods and orchards. The frequent stations give the traveller opportunity of halting and examining the country more leisurely. He may do so with the assurance of being well repaid for the delay. The *Kennet and Avon Canal* accompanies the river through the whole of the valley, and crosses it by an aqueduct below Monkton Combe. The two counties of Wilts and Somerset meet in this valley, so that the traveller is sometimes in one and sometimes in the other. He commences in Wiltshire at

24 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. passes rt. **Winsley**, said to have been the scene of a battle between Alfred and the Danes. Here is a house, a good work of Wood, the architect of Bath. The *Ch.* is new, but preserves the old tower (detached) with a saddle-back roof. The little hamlet of *Conkwell*, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., picturesquely planted in a wooded cleft of the rock.

35 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. **Freshford** Stat. (Somerset) (*Charterhouse Hinton Abbey* is 1 m. distant, *Farleigh Castle* 2 m., by very pleasant footpaths, Rte. 4). Here Sir W. Napier wrote his "History of the Peninsular War." The *Ch.* is modern. The high ground, known as *Sharpstone* and *Mount Pleasant*, commands views up the 2 valleys, the White Horse at Westbury in the far distance in one, and the town of Bradford in the other. A path leads from

Mount Pleasant to the ruins of Hinton Abbey.

We re-enter Wilts and reach

36 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. l. **Limpley Stoke** Stat., a romantic village with hanging woods and gardens, and a wild hillside well suited for picnic or sketching parties. The small *Ch.* has a Norm. door in the S. wall, and a stone pulpit (Perp.). The chalice and paten bear the date 1577. In the churchyard are 13 Anglo-Norm. tombs (12th and 13th century). In Stoke Wood above Chatley House is a celebrated holy well known as *Shingle Bell Well*. Here is a *hydro-pathic establishment*. A short distance beyond the stat. the Avon is crossed by a fine well-proportioned bridge. Wiltshire is left again at

36 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. **Monkton Combe**. At the *Viaduct Inn*, the road to Frome is carried across the valley by a stone viaduct of 11 arches; $\frac{1}{2}$ m. further the *Dundas Aqueduct* carries the Kennet and Avon Canal over the rly. and river. **Combe Down** above the village, overhanging Bath, is honeycombed with quarries.

38 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. l. **Claverton** (originally Clatfordton), a very pretty village, standing in a most picturesque part of the winding valley. Opposite, reached by Warleigh Ferry, is the Gothic mansion of *Warleigh House* (Colonel H. Mills-Skrine), embowered in the hanging woods that clothe the lower slopes of **Monkton Farleigh Down**. At Claverton are the stone terraces of a former mansion of the Bassetts. The existing house, seated high on the hill, was built from a design by Sir Jeffrey Wyatt-

ville. The old house, which stood lower down the hill, and was flanked by terraced gardens, was besieged and taken by a Parliamentary force in the Civil War. Claverton was for 60 years the living of *Richard Graves* (d. 1804), author of the "Spiritual Quixote." He is buried in the *Ch.*, which was rebuilt and enlarged 1858. In the churchyard, a pretty enclosure, full of roses, is the tomb of *Ralph Allen*, of Prior Park (the original of Squire Allworthy of "Tom Jones"), interred here 1766. An agreeable walk leads to Bath by the road over Claverton Down, whence from the summit of the hill there is a fine view up the wooded valley to the distant oolite escarpment.

The geologist will find in the Avon valley and its branches many examples of the subsidence of the strata. On the hills bounding the l. bank of the river the effect of landslips may be observed in the inferior oolite, and from the commanding eminence of **Hampton Rocks** the spectator looks down upon rugged masses of oolite, which, having slipped from the cap of the hill, now lie in picturesque confusion among the trees.

On the opposite side of the river, near the point of union of the Avon and Box valleys, stands **Monkton Farleigh Tower** (Rte. 4), looking down on Bathford, and commanding a magnificent view of Bath and the heights and valleys around.

41 m. *Bathampton* Stat.

43 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. BATH ("Handbook for Somerset").

ROUTE 6.

HUNGERFORD TO SALISBURY,
TIDWORTH, THE WINTER-
BOURN VALLEY, WINTERS-
LOW (THREE ROUTES).

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Hungerford.
4 m.	Shalbourne.
19½ m.	Old Sarum.
29½ m.	Salisbury.
	<hr/>
	Hungerford.
4 m.	Shalbourne.
9 m.	North Tidworth.
12½ m.	Cholderton.
14 m.	Alington.
14½ m.	East Boscombe.
15½ m.	Idmiston.
16 m.	Porton.
17 m.	Winterbourn Gunner.
18 m.	" Dauntsey.
19 m.	" Ford.
20 m.	Laverstock.
20½ m.	Salisbury.

Hungerford (see "Handbook for Berks").

The road runs through the edge of Berkshire to

4 m. **Shalbourne**, partly in Berks and partly in Wilts, in a valley surrounded on the N., E., and S. by the chalk hills, across which the road stretches, crossing the Roman road from Marlborough at *Marston*, 6 m., and at 7 m. leaves on l. the little village of **Tidcombe**, perched on the down, and the *Long Barrow* close by. Further to E. are the entrenchment of **Fosbury Camp**, on **Haydon Hill**, and the hamlet of Fosbury. Leaving to the l. Chute Heath and the village of **Chute**, which bears the name of a forest which formerly extended

far into Hampshire and in a northerly direction to the skirts of Savernake, the road crosses the exposed uplands of Collingbourne Heath, passing rt. the villages S. of **Collingbourne Kingston** and **Collingbourne Ducis** (Rte. 3).

1½ m. a road crosses that we are pursuing, leading rt. by **East Everley** and Upavon to Devizes, 18 m., 1½ m. l. to the little town of 7 m. **Ludgershall** (Rte. 3).

[2¼ m. rt. in the open country, over which the eye ranges freely, are **East Everley** and *Everley House* (Rte. 3). The surrounding hills abound in remains of earthworks in the shape of hut-circles, camps, and barrows. The latter are especially frequent. Sir R. C. Hoare remarks that no tract of country in his knowledge presents so many British tumuli as that between Everley and Amesbury. One near Everley, when opened by him, presented first the skeleton of a small dog, and nearly 6 ft. below, at the bottom of the barrow, the following very perfect interment collected on a level floor. The body of the deceased had been burned, and the bones and ashes piled up in a small heap, which was surrounded by a circular wreath of horns of the red deer, within which, and amidst the ashes, were 5 beautiful arrow-heads, cut out of flint, and a small red pebble.

On **Milton Hill**, to the N. of Everley, is a group of 8 barrows, arranged in two parallel lines, one of which is remarkable for a form more pointed than any other in the county; 2 m. S. is the bold entrenchment of

Sidbury Hill, crowned by a heart-shaped entrenchment, formed by two ramparts and ditches, the inner 46 ft. deep, and enclosing an area of 17 acres, gorgeous in the early summer with a profusion of the Rosebay willow herb. From the principal entrance a raised causeway runs N. towards East Everley, intersecting a barrow in its course, and passing W. of a British village. At other points banks and ditches diverge like rays from the earthwork, and lead either to the remains of British villages or to groups of tumuli: N.W. 2 m., the **Twin Barrows**, enclosed by a ditch; S., the **Seven Barrows** on Clearington Hill; and W., **Lidbury** and **Chisenbury**.

In the neighbourhood there have been traced, or believed to have been traced, no less than 9 British villages: (1) on Easton Hill, N.; (2) on Milton Hill, N.; (3) on Pewsey Heath, N.W.; (4) at Lidbury, W.; (5) on Comb Hill, S.W.; (6) in a vale adjoining Bulford Field, S.W.; (7) on Haxton Down, W. of Sidbury; (8) between Everley and Sidbury; (9) on Westdown Hill, S. of Sidbury. Most of these, however, have not been allowed by the Ordnance surveyors.

The old road from East Everley to Salisbury (15 m.) passes over the bare open downs, and formerly existed as a turnpike road only as far as East Everley, beyond which it was linked together by tracks on the turf.]

To resume our route:

1½ m. beyond the road to Ludgershall the Salisbury road divides; that to the **rt.** traversing the lonely downs, which are known as Salisbury Plain.

1 m. **rt.** is *Sidbury Hill*.

10 m. the road crosses *Brigmerston Down*, and beyond it runs for about 3 m. below *Beacon Hill*, a ridge 668 ft. above the level of the sea, the summit bearing the mark of the Ordnance Corps. Numerous large barrows are disposed in groups about the valley and the neighbouring hills.

13 m. the traveller crosses one of the great western roads from London to the Land's End, skirted by an ancient bank and ditch, between the 75th and 76th milestones, and at the 74th joined by another, which descends to it from Beacon Hill.

[1 m. to the **rt.** is the town of **Amesbury**, and about 2 m. beyond Amesbury **Stonehenge** (Rte. 8).]

16 m. About 1 m. to the **rt.** is **Ogbury Camp**, a circular entrenchment of 62 acres, regarded as an unaltered British fortification. The rampart, which is destitute of a fosse, is more than 30 ft. high.

19½ m. **Old Sarum** (Rte. 8).

20½ m. **Salisbury**.

Returning to the **left-hand road**, which runs through a valley enlivened by numerous villages, we reach in

9 m. **North Tidworth** (or Tidworth Zouch). The *Ch.*, Late

Perp., with earlier work in the tower, contains a monument to Thomas Pierce, Dean of Salisbury, ejected from his Fellowship at Magdalen, 1648. It is a village pleasantly situated in a valley below the woodlands and prospect tower of

Tidworth Park (in Hants), now the property of Sir John Kelt, Bart., but formerly the seat of T. Assheton Smith, Esq. This gentleman was distinguished for his ardent love and pursuit of the chase, and as the proprietor of a kennel and stables which were the admiration of sporting men. They accommodated 3 packs of hounds and about 30 hunters, which here led no life of luxurious ease, as the squire, before his great age incapacitated him, took the field on every week-day during the season. The gardens are very beautiful. They were the creation of Mr. Smith, who, on succeeding to the paternal property in 1826, rebuilt the family mansion, and remodelled the grounds on a grand scale. A conservatory, now removed to Pokesdown, Bournemouth, connected with the house and stables by a corridor, measured no less than 310 ft. in length by 40 in breadth. At the death of Mr. A. Smith in 1858, he had hunted the Tidworth country for the long period of 31 years. He commenced his career in Northamptonshire, then purchased the Quorn in Leicestershire, and afterwards worked the Burton Hunt in Lincolnshire. He was a bold and excellent rider, in his youth quite "a miracle on horseback." His love of the chase remaining to the last, he erected a

lofty tower in his grounds, from which he would watch the running of his hounds when unable to follow them on the saddle. In memory of Mr. Smith, the "Tidworth Hunt" has been preserved; but a large portion of Mr. A. Smith's stables and exercising-house has been taken down. The present proprietor has had the old mansion refronted in the Italian style, and greatly improved the general condition of the estate. A very beautiful *Ch.* has been erected in the park from the designs of Mr. G. Hamilton Gordon, in the Trans. style, at the cost of £12,000. The mansion occupies the site of a manor-house, then owned by Mr. John Mompesson, reputed to have been haunted, in 1661, by an "invisible drummer," of the same character as the one at Hurstmonceux Castle, immortalised by Addison in his comedy. North Tidworth, in 1607, was the birthplace of *Robert Maton*, an eccentric millenarian divine. In passing through the village notice the slate railing by the roadside, from Mr. A. Smith's Welsh quarries.

At a spot called *Hampshire Cross* our route enters Hampshire, in which it continues for 3 m.

10 m. the road traverses *Tidworth Park*; the house may be observed on the rt. To the l. is the hamlet of *South Tidworth*.

11 m. **Shipton Bellinger** to the rt. If on foot, and bound to Amesbury (6 m.) or Stonehenge (8 m.), you may take a green road which strikes into the downs from this village.

12 m. our route crosses the high-

road from Andover to Amesbury (6 m. W.), and re-enters Wilts. *Park House*, an inn, stands at the crossing, and near it an ancient bank and ditch traverse the neighbouring fields. In a S.E. direction is the oblong camp on **Quarley Hill**, close above **Grately** station.

12½ m. **Cholderton**, with a manor-house, was formerly the residence of the family of Foyle, by whom it was probably built in the 17th century. The *Ch.*, erected 1844, is in the Perp. style, constructed to carry an ancient timber roof brought from one of the eastern counties, with an octagon tower and spire at one of the angles of the W. front. The Rev. T. Mozley was then the vicar, and gives an amusing account of his troubles with this roof in his "Reminiscences of Oriel and the Oxford Movement."

[2 m. S. of Cholderton the *London and S.W. Rly.* enters Wilts at the **Hampshire Gap**, 74¼ m. from London, and runs side by side with the Roman road, rt., from Silchester to Old Sarum, to

78 m. **Porton** stat., and

83 m. **Salisbury**.]

The road we are pursuing follows the course of the Winterbourn stream, passing through pretty villages almost every ½ m. and running in the main parallel to the rly.

13 m. S. of Cholderton is **Wilbury Park** (Sir A. F. W. E. Webster), built in the reign of James I. by Auditor Benson, one of the first examples of the Italian style in England, afterwards purchased by Sir Charles

Malet, in 1803. The east wing was formerly a chapel. It is in the parish of *Newton Toney*, S.; the *Ch.*, rebuilt 1844, contains a Norm. font.

14 m. **Allington**. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1851, stands in a little retired dell surrounded with chalk hills. When Nicholas Fuller, a very learned divine, was rector here, he was suddenly sent for by Lancelot Andrewes, Bishop of Winchester. The poor man was very much afraid, not knowing what hurt he had done. A dish was put before him at dinner, and on raising the cover he found in it a presentation to a prebend. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Silchester, in Hampshire, pursued its course along the hills to the l.

14½ m. **East Boscombe**. Of this place *Richard Hooker*, author of "The Laws of Ecclesiastical Polity," was rector, 1591-95, by the presentation of Archbp. Whitgift during the vacancy of the see of Salisbury; and here he wrote the first 4 books of his great work. Part of Hooker's rectory-house still remains. The *Ch.* is small and mean.

15½ m. **Idmiston**. The Rev. *John Bowle*, a scholar in Spanish literature and vicar of Idmiston, lies buried in the church (b. 1725, d. 1788). He edited an edition of "Don Quixote" in 6 vols., 4to, and was familiarly known as Don Bowle. The *Ch.* has a W. tower and spire, a good E.E. chancel with triple lancet, nave, and aisles Perp., with a fine roof. There is a monument of the family of Rowbach, 1633.

16 m. **Porton** (stat. of S.W.

Rly.) has a small *Ch.*, rebuilt on a new site, 1877, from Mr. J. L. Pearson's plans.

17 m. **Winterbourne Gunner**, so named from Gunnora, wife of Henry de la Mere, the lord of this place in the reign of Henry III.

18 m. further down the stream are the villages of **Winterbourne Dauntsey**, so called from the Dauntsey family (Rte. 1), to whom it belonged temp. Edward I., and **Winterbourne Earls**. The mean and dilapidated churches of these villages were pulled down, and a new one for the two erected 1868 from designs by T. H. Wyatt.

19 m. **Winterbourne Ford**, where the Roman road from Winchester forded the stream on its way to Old Sarum. About 1 m. to the l. on the other side of the rly. is the conspicuous earthwork known since Stukeley's days as

Chlorus's Camp, but more truly **Figsbury Ring**, an entrenchment of 15 acres, remarkable for containing a deep ditch within the ramparts. The outer vallum girdling this circular camp is 46 ft. in height, and pierced by 3 entrances, pointing E., W., and S.; that towards the E. is fortified by outworks. On the S. are remains of the Roman road from Old Sarum to Winchester, and towards the N. and N.E. a network of Celtic banks and ditches. The supposed connection with Constantius Chlorus, the father of Constantine the Great, is a baseless fancy, resting on an impossible derivation of "Clarendon." Old Sarum is a very conspicuous object to rt.

20 m. **Laverstock**, the *Ch.* of which was rebuilt in 1844. *Laverstock House* is a large private lunatic asylum. The *Hill* is the residence of Herbert Neal, Esq.

20½ m. *Salisbury*.

The old road from Andover to Salisbury enters Wilts at **Lobcombe Corner**, on Salisbury Plain.

1½ m. The **Pheasant Inn** or **Winterslow Hut**. Here William Hazlitt, during a considerable portion of his life, spent several months of each year. The chief attraction was the thorough quiet of the place, the sole interruption of which was the passage to and fro of the London mails. The hut stands in a valley equidistant about a mile from two tolerably high hills, at the summit of which on their approach, either way, the guards used to blow forth their admonition to the ostler. After his marriage in 1806, Hazlitt lived in the village, where Charles and Mary Lamb paid him frequent visits, "thorough Londoners in a thoroughly country place, delighted and wondering and wondered at," walking from 8 to 20 m. a day, and heartily enjoying the "quiet, delicious, lazy holiday." Hazlitt's "Winterslow Essays" were written here.

In October, 1816, on a dark still night, Winterslow Hut was the scene of a curious incident. The Exeter mail, on its road to London, was in the act of pulling up, when, to the dismay of the affrighted passengers, the off leader was seized by a lioness, which had escaped from a cara-

van on its way to Salisbury fair. A large mastiff bounded to the rescue, but the lioness left the horse, which had fought with great spirit, and pursued the dog, which it killed within 40 yards. The keeper of the animal, however, soon arrived, and, with considerable risk to himself, contrived to drive it into an out-house, and there secured it. There is in the parlour of the inn a painting of the scene.

There are numerous banks and ditches and barrows to the rt., including two of the largest in the county. **L. Winterslow**, the manor was held by John de Roches in the reign of Edward III. by a singular service. Whenever the King should be staying at Clarendon the lord of Winterslow should go to that palace, take from any vessel he chose as much wine as would be needful for making "one pitcher of claret," which he should make at the King's charge; he should serve the King, and then keep for himself the cup, the wine that was left, and all the wine that was left in the vessel from which he drew it.

Winterslow House, in West Winterslow, formerly a residence of the family of Fox, was burnt to the ground in 1774, on which occasion Henry Richard, third Lord Holland, then only 6 weeks old, had a narrow escape of his life, being borne through the fire in the arms of his mother. The second Lord Holland had purchased the estate of the Thistlethwaytes. The father of the late Sir Benjamin Brodie, as a friend of C. James Fox, was presented to the living, and here the eminent surgeon was born, 1783.

ROUTE 7.

DEVIZES TO SALISBURY (TWO ROUTES): POTTERNE, MARKET LAVINGTON; URCHFON, SALISBURY PLAIN.

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Devizes.
2 m.	Potterne.
4 m.	Market Lavington.
5 m.	West Lavington.
11 m.	Winterbourne Stoke.
11½ m.	Berwick St. James.
13 m.	Stapleford.
19½ m.	Salisbury.
	Devizes.
4 m.	Urchfont.
12 m.	Bustard Inn.
14 m.	Stonehenge.
16½ m.	Druid's Head.
23 m.	Salisbury.

From Devizes there are two roads to Salisbury. That to the W. leads by comparatively sheltered valleys and through villages, and is the more picturesque and agreeable; that to the E. conducts the traveller over the bleak rolling surface of Salisbury Plain. The length of both is nearly the same, about 24 or 25 m. To commence with that to the W. Starting from the S. end of Devizes,

2 m. **Potterne**, in a small sheltered valley, remarkable for the mildness of the air and picturesqueness of its position. Mrs. Gaskell describes it as "a quiet little village, far inland, nestled beneath the stretches of Salisbury Plain." A long-since forgotten inhabitant has obtained wide celebrity in the saying "like old Ross, of Potterne, that lived

till all the world was weary of him." Potterne was a manor of the bishops of Salisbury, who had a house here which received Henry III., July 12th, 1255, which Bp. Robert Wyville obtained licence to crenellate, 1237, and where Bp. Mitford died in 1407. The noble parish church, standing high above the village, is of about the same date as the cathedral of Salisbury, and may very probably owe its erection to Bp. Poore. Like that cathedral, it was erected from the ground on a new site. The old site is still known as "the old churchyard." The *Ch.* is an aisleless cruciform building, with N. and S. porches, and is a fine example of E.E. on a large scale, well preserved and unmixed. It has a square central tower, with fine Perp. stone lattice-work in the E.E. belfry windows. The characteristic of the building is extreme simplicity and regularity; sculpture is almost entirely wanting, and mouldings are used very sparingly, but the want of elaboration is fully compensated by good proportion and refinement of detail. There are triple lancets in the E. and W. gables, and double lancets in transept gables. The eastern group is singularly beautiful. The *Ch.* was restored in 1871 by Mr. Christian. A very curious tub-shaped *font*,* of Saxon date, was found during the repairs buried beneath the then existing font. Round the upper rim is Ps. xlii. 1: "Sicut cervus desiderat ad fontes aquarum, ita desiderat anima mea ad te, Deus," in very early characters. The Latin is not that of the Vulgate or other recognised translation, but of the Saxon baptismal, which fixes the date.

The exact form of the lettering is reproduced in the window above, and the shape of the "S" is only elsewhere met with on the seal of William the Conqueror. The windows contain some good modern stained glass. There is a dole-table in the churchyard to rt. of path to N. door. It is like an altar-tomb, but without inscription, and has a cross on one end. The picturesque village contains some good half-timbered houses with ornamental bargeboards and projecting upper story. One of these, called the *Porch House*, was carefully restored by its late owner, G. Richmond, Esq., R.A. It contains a dining-hall with an oriel, and an open roof, paved in mosaic. *Blount's Court* is the seat of W. Stancomb, Esq., D.L., J.P.

4 m. **Market Lavington** (sometimes called *Steeple* Lavington, by mistake for *Staple*, i.e., *Market Lavington*), pleasantly situated in a fertile valley at the base of the chalk-hills, which form the N. boundary of Salisbury Plain, consists chiefly of one street. It was the birthplace, 1974, of Bp. Tanner, of St. Asaph, author of the "Notitia Monastica," whose father was vicar of the parish, and to whom there is a monument in the *Ch.*, which stands on elevated ground W. of the town (Rte. 4).

5 m. **West, or Bishop's, Lavington** lies 1 m. S.W. In a house still standing here, Captain Henry Penruddocke, son of Sir J. Penruddocke, was brutally killed as he was sleeping in his chair, after two nights of hard service, by a party of Ludlow's

troopers, Dec., 1644. An inscription in the *Ch.* specifies that he was "slain by a soldier of the contrary party." In the *Lords' aisle* are 2 altar-tombs, to members of the Danvers family, also a third mutilated female effigy of an earlier date. There is a S. chapel with a good piscina, a fine oak and iron chest, and some old glass.

[2 m. W. are **Great** and **Little Cheverell**, of the former of which Sir James Stonehouse, the friend of Hannah More, and the Mr. Johnson of her "Shepherd of Salisbury Plain," was incumbent. The character of the shepherd was drawn from a poor man named Saunders, whose cottage is still pointed out on Cheverell Down. The *Ch.* of Great Cheverell is ancient E.E.; that of Little Cheverell was rebuilt 1850.]

6 m. the road climbs the down, and enters on Salisbury Plain, crossing on the crest of the hill the **Ridgeway**. This point is called "**St. Joan a' Gore's Cross**," from the fact that a chantry chapel to St. John stood here in the 14th century. All traces of it have now disappeared. It continues over the exposed surface of **Tilshead Down** and by the village of

8½ m. **Tilshead**, where the Norm. or Trans. church deserves notice. It has a large chancel and a clerestoried nave, and contains a Norm. font. Tilshead Lodge, in the midst of the downs, was built by William, Duke of Cumberland, as a racing establishment. Crossing the embankment known as the **Old Ditch** between the **White Barrow** rt. and **Silver**

Barrow l., it descends into the valley of Winterbourne, with its almost continuous line of villages. The first of these are

Orcheston St. Mary, **Orcheston St. George**, and **Maddington**, lying N.E. of the road which leads to 9 m. **Shrewton** (*Ch.* rebuilt 1855) and **Rolleston**. The road passes l. an earthwork known as the **Coniger**, and reaches

11 m. **Winterbourne Stoke**. The *Ch.* is cruciform but aisleless, with a central tower and turret. The N. transept has been rebuilt. There are good Norm. N. and S. doors, an E.E. triplet at the E. end, and an hour-glass stand. The pulpit is dated 1621.

11¾ m. is **Berwick St. James**. The cruciform *Ch.* has a Norm. N. door and tower and font, and a stone pulpit, entered through the wall. Above the E. window is an ancient fresco.

13 m. **Stapleford**.

15 m. **Wishford** Stat.

17½ m. **Wilton** Stat.

19¾ m. **Salisbury** (see Rte. 11, Salisbury to Westbury).

The other road to Salisbury leaves Devizes at the E. end of the town, and for 3 m. runs nearly parallel with the rly. to Hungerford (Rte. 5).

4 m. rt. lies **Urchfont**, which has a highly interesting cruciform *Ch.*, chiefly Dec., with E.E. remains, and Perp. square tower at W. end, crowned with a belfry-turret. The chancel and S. porch are both vaulted in stone, and

are of excellent workmanship. The porch is very curious, being roofed externally in stone, with arched ribs enriched by finials at the ridge. The ridge of the chancel roof has also a flowered ornament. In the chancel is a Purbeck marble monument to Robert Tothill (ob. 1753), senior clerk of the Privy Seal to George III. In the village is a perennial spring, to which the village seems to owe its ancient name of Arche-fount.

Beyond this Salisbury Plain proper is entered. The tall poles set up, every $\frac{1}{2}$ m. along the road, by the father of Sir T. Lawrence (Rte. 5, Devizes), have given place to ordinary milestones. At the present day clumps of trees are to be seen on almost every hill (planted chiefly as shelter for game), and even here and there along the road. Large tracts have been brought under cultivation. Farm-buildings are seldom out of sight, and the farmhouses are usually provided with well-kept gardens. The Plain presents a different aspect from when "Thomas Ingoldsby" wrote :

"Oh, Salisbury Plain is bleak and bare,
At least so I've heard many people de-
clare,
For I fairly confess I never was there;
Not a shrub, nor a tree,
Nor a bush can we see,
No hedges, no ditches, no gates, no stiles,
Much less a house or a cottage, for miles.
It's a very sad thing to be caught in the
rain
When night's coming on upon Salisbury
Plain."

6 m. **Redhorn Turnpike**, where the road crosses the ancient **Ridgeway**.

Broadbury Banks is 2 m. E. The wild open country which

the road crosses is appropriately known as "*Black Heath*."

8 m. 1. **Ell Barrow** (*Ell* A.-S., strange, foreign). A large bank and ditch traverse the country to the E. of it. N.E. 1 m. is a small entrenchment called **Castle Ditches**, and 3 m. in a similar direction

Casterley Camp, an area of 64 acres surrounded by a single vallum 28 ft. in height. It was probably a British town. "It will be found," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "to be one of the most original and unaltered works of the British era which our county can produce."

2 m. the **Bustard Inn**, as an inn, exists no longer. It is now a private residence. [As no accommodation can now be had either here or at the *Druid's Head* (also no longer an inn), tourists wishing to explore Stonehenge, 4 m. S.E., or the earthworks of Salisbury Plain, must make Amesbury or Wilton their headquarters, or provide themselves with refreshments from one of those places.] The great bustard was formerly common on the Wiltshire hills, but is now almost extinct. In 1801 one of these birds attacked a horseman in the country near Tilshead, and in January, 1856, a fine male specimen was captured near Hungerford; 2 were seen near Newbury, Berks, in 1864, but escaped capture; in 1871, 5 were seen, one being shot at Berwick St. James, and a second at Maddington. The Rev. W. Chafin, in a book written 48 years ago, mentions that once, between Andover and Salisbury, he put up 25 bustards at once.

1 m. l. ancient earthworks ; near a clump of trees called **Robin Hood's Ball** is an earthen circle without ditch or entrance, with another within it, and, at a distance of 2 m., **Knighton Long Barrow**.

4 m. *Stonehenge* $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the l. The view on all sides is wild and dreary—

“The spacious plain

Of Sarum, spread like ocean's boundless round,

Where solitary Stonehenge, grey with moss,

Ruin of ages, nods.” *Dyer's Fleece*.

$16\frac{1}{4}$ m. the **Druid's Head** or **Woodford Hut**, formerly resorted to by visitors to Stonehenge, is no longer an inn ; S.W. of it, on the slope of a hill, is a large ancient enclosure formed by a bank.

21 m. rt. the **Field of the Tournament** (see Rte. 8). Adjoining is the Salisbury cemetery, on l. a noble view of Old Sarum.

23 m. **Salisbury**.

ROUTE 8.

ROMSEY to SALISBURY (OLD SARUM, AMESBURY, STONEHENGE, WILTON, LONGFORD, CLARENDON).

RAIL. PLACES.

	Romsey.
$23\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Alderbury.
$26\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Milford.
$28\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Salisbury.

ROAD. Salisbury.

2 m.	Old Sarum.
8 m.	Amesbury.
$9\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Stonehenge.
$11\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Wilsford.
14 m.	Great Durnford.
$16\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Middle Woodford.
$17\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Stratford-sub-Castle.
$20\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Wilton.
23 m.	Salisbury.

The S.W. Rly. from Southampton by Eastleigh and Romsey enters Wiltshire at

$20\frac{1}{4}$ m. *West Dean*, partly in Hants and partly in Wilts.

West Dean House, now pulled down, was formerly a seat of the Evelyns, and afterwards of the first Duke of Kingston, and is mentioned in the letters of his celebrated daughter, Lady Mary Montagu. The *Ch.* is rich in monuments of the Evelyns and Pierreponts ; among them are those to John Evelyn and his lady, 1625, their kneeling effigies being represented in the costume of the time of James I. ; Sir J. Evelyn, 1685, and a very conspicuous and eccentric pile of white marble, with long and strange epitaphs, to R. Pierrepont, 1669. In the village a

mosaic pavement was discovered 1741.

[3½ m. S. on the other side of Dean Hill, which stretches its long chalk ridge, dotted over with yews, along the line of the rly. S., is

Melchet Park (or Milshot), formerly a royal forest, purchased in 1821 by Lord Ashburton. The house occupies an elevated site, commanding a wide and beautiful view; on an eminence in the park stands a Hindoo temple, erected 1800 by its then possessor, Major Osborne, in memory of Warren Hastings. It was designed by Thomas Daniell, R.A. Over the portal is the figure of Ganesa, the genius of wisdom, and within the temple a bust of Warren Hastings rising out of the sacred flower of the lotus, "sacred to the genii of India, who from time to time assume material forms to protect its nations and its laws, particularly to the immortal Hastings."

6 m. S. of West Dean is

Landford, where a *Ch.* has been built from designs by Butterfield. *Landford Manor-house*, the seat of the Lyghs and Davenants, was purchased (c. 1720) by John Eyre, from whom it has descended in the female line to the Nelson family, its present owner being the Rev. the Hon. J. H. Nelson. Its chief front was modernized towards the beginning of the 18th century. **Landford Lodge**, originally Breach House, belonged to Dodington Egerton, and was bought 1776 by Sir W. Heathcote, of Hursley, who rebuilt it.

To the W. of Landford is the

wild wood of **the Earldoms**, originally granted by King Edmund to Wulfgar his thane, which derives its name from having anciently belonged to the earls of Pembroke. In its recesses is an entrenchment called **Castle Hill**, formed by a single rampart and ditch, which encircle a little spring which wells up in the enclosure. On the southern verge of these woods is *Hamptworth Lodge* (Mrs. Morrison).

To the N.W. of the Earldoms is **New House** or *Tychebourne Park* (G. E. Matcham, Esq.), erected c. 1619 and enlarged by Chief Justice Eyre, 1689.

3 m. S. is **Whiteparish**, in which there stands, W. of the church, a manor-house of the Lynches of the time of James I., with some carved work in wood on the outside, and at the entrance of the village, N.E., in a pretty position, **Whelpley**, an ancient farmhouse, and "very interesting relic of the old yeoman's establishment"; and on an adjoining knoll, commanding a view over the New Forest to the sea, the remains of a chapel to St. Leonard. In *Whiteparish Ch.* are monuments of the St. Barbes and Eyres of Brickworth. There is one to *Giles Eyre*, sheriff 1640, who resisted forced loans to Charles I., was plundered by royal troops and imprisoned. He was the father of Rev. William Eyre, of St. Edmund's, Sarum, "a rigid Calvinist, enemy to tithes, and a purchaser of church revenues; in those sad times he, by his doctrine, advanced much the *blessed* cause at Sarum as commissioner for scandalous ministers"—*Anthony à Wood*.

E. of Whiteparish is **Cowsfield House**, mansion of the Lawrences, partly rebuilt 1815, but still preserving the traces of its Elizabethan date. 2 m. W. is **Brickworth House**, a Jacobean mansion, but modernized and much injured by fire, for many years a seat of the Eyres, and lately of the Countess Dowager Nelson.]

22½ m. W. **East Grinstead**, 1½ m. N. **Farley**, birthplace of *Sir Stephen Fox* (b. 1627), founder of the noble families of Fox and Ilchester. The *Almshouse* or *Hospital* at Farley contains a portrait of Sir Stephen, by Lely. In the brick *Ch.* erected by Sir Stephen in 1688 to replace "an ancient ruined chapel," situated in a different position, are mural monuments to himself and his two wives, a tablet to his distinguished grandson, Charles James Fox, and a monument to Henry Thomas, Earl of Ilchester, by the younger Westmacott.

23 m. l. **West Grinstead**.

23¾ m. l. **Alderbury Junction** Stat. [Here a line diverges l. by *Downton* to *Wimborne* (Rte. 13), where an E.E. *Ch.*, with a spire, was built in 1858.]

Alderbury House (G. Fort, Esq.) was erected with the materials of the ancient belfry of Salisbury Cathedral, pulled down by James Wyatt. Proceeding along the line, we have **Clarendon House** and **Ivy Church** l., and reach

26¾ m. **Milford Junction**, connecting the S.W. and G.W. rlys., where the line strikes N., and piercing **Mizmaze Hill** by a tunnel, reaches

28¾ m. * * **SALISBURY** (Pop. of parliamentary borough 16,751). [Railways diverge from Salisbury; the *Great Western* by Heytesbury and Warminster to Westbury; the *South-Western* by Andover and Basingstoke to London; by Sherborne and Yeovil to Exeter; by Romsey to Eastleigh, and by Romsey and Redbridge to Southampton; and by Downton to Wimborne. The stations are at Fisherton, N.W. of the city.]

This cathedral and county town is situated in a valley at the confluence of three streams, the Upper Avon, Bourn, and Wylye, and near the junction of a fourth, the Nadder, from which formerly copious rivulets flowed uncovered through the principal streets, from which Salisbury has been absurdly likened to a "heap of islets thrown together," and, with a bolder fancy, to Venice. The epitaph to Mr. Francis Hide, who died while secretary to the embassy at Venice, runs,

"Born in the English Venice, thou dost lie,
Dear friend, in the Italian Salisbury."

After the fearful visitation of cholera in 1849, a thorough system of drainage was carried out in the years 1853-4, at an expense, including the water supply, of £27,000. Salisbury is now one of the best drained and healthiest towns in the kingdom.

The plan of the city is remarkably regular, an advantage due to the fact of its being a new town laid out in its entirety at its first foundation, and not allowed to grow up without system, as is usually the case. Before the buildings were commenced the ground was very wisely parti-

tioned into squares, or "chequers," as they were called, and to this we owe the regularity and airiness of the place, the houses being arranged in rectangular groups, which face a thoroughfare on each side, and enclose in the centre an open space for yards and gardens, the streets running in straight lines—5 from N. to S., and as many from E. to W. It was once famous for clothing and cutlery, but both these manufactures have now dwindled to nothing. It is the Melchester of the Wessex novels, and forms the scene of "On the Western Circuit," and the marriage of Sue in "Jude the Obscure," as well as of incidents in other stories.

Salisbury owes its origin to the removal of the episcopal see from Old Sarum by Bp. Poore. The situation of Old Sarum, naturally strong and rendered almost impregnable by its formidable lines of entrenchment, was in many respects inconvenient. There was a scarcity of water, and the cathedral stood so high and exposed that, according to an old tradition, "when the wind did blow they could not hear the priest say mass."

"Est ibi defectus aquæ,"

run the verses of Peter of Blois, himself a canon of Salisbury,—

" . . . sed copia cretæ,
Sæviti ibi ventus, sed Philomela silet."

In addition to this, after the fall of Bp. Roger, the castle of Old Sarum, which up to that time had been in the custody of the bishops, was transferred by the King to the keeping of lay castellans; and the ecclesiastics complained of suffering much insult and annoyance from the castellans and their rude

soldiery. On one occasion, after a solemn procession, they were shut out from their precincts, and compelled to remain without shelter during a long winter's night. At other times, even on solemn festivals, they were refused access to their own cathedral. "What has the house of the Lord to do with castles?" continues Peter of Blois; "it is the ark of the covenant in a temple of Baalim. Let us, in God's name, descend into the level. There are rich champaigns and fertile valleys, abounding in the fruits of the earth, and profusely watered by living streams. There is a seat for the Virgin patroness of our Church to which the whole world cannot produce a parallel."

Accordingly, licence having been obtained from Pope Honorius, the long-expressed wishes for a removal were carried into effect by Bp. Poore. The site of the new cathedral, according to one tradition, was determined by an arrow shot from the ramparts of Old Sarum; according to another, the site was revealed to Bp. Poore in a dream by the Virgin herself. There is evidence, however, that the lay inhabitants of Old Sarum as well as the churchmen were beginning to find the limits of the castle somewhat too narrow, and that they were already removing to new habitations in the meadow of Merryfield, *i.e.*, the *Maer* or boundary field, where three ancient hundreds, Underditch, Alderbury, and Cawdon, formerly met, and where, on the festival of St. Vitalis (April 28th, 1220), the first stones of the existing cathedral of Salisbury were solemnly laid by Bp. Poore. The strong defences which at the period of the Conquest had rendered the castle of Old Sarum a desirable place of refuge were no longer so greatly needed; and the land on which the new town

and cathedral were building was the actual property of the Bishop.

Salisbury soon increased in extent and grew into importance. In 1227 Henry III., in the eleventh year of his reign, granted a charter to incorporate the new town, making it a *free city*, with the same extensive immunities and privileges as Winchester enjoyed. In 1278 Edward I. granted a charter confirmatory of the original one.

In 1244 Bp. Bingham availed himself of the royal charter granted to his predecessor, and brought the Icknield Street, or great western road, through Salisbury. [The original course of this road was over the hill from Old Sarum, through the rectory garden at Bemerton, and across the meadows towards the race-plain. Bp. Bingham diverted its course to the new city, and built the bridge over the Avon at Harnham.] This proceeding, so advantageous to the interests of the rising community, was most injurious to Wilton, and fatal to Old Sarum. In 1295 the city first sent members to Parliament. In the year 1310 a deep fosse was made by the citizens (by permission of the Bishop) for the defence of the city on the N. and N.E. sides, it being sufficiently defended by the rivers on the S. and S.W.

The new city soon began to take the place of the old one as an important centre of the national life of England, and its annals are illustrated with many stirring events. From its position on the great western road it was in times of civil commotion a place of importance, and particularly exposed to the passage of troops. Here, in 1289, the commissioners met to arrange a match between Prince Edward and the Princess Margaret of Scotland, "the Maid of Norway," when four ambassadors from

Eric, King of Norway, were also present. A parliament of the barons of the realm was held here in February, 1297. Bigod, Earl of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, and De Bohun, Earl of Hereford, Lord Constable, being required by Edward I. to command the forces setting sail for Guienne, refused to comply, and withdrew from the assembly, which broke up, nothing done. A parliament was held here April 20th, 1384, when the Duke of Lancaster was accused by a Carmelite friar of a design of killing Richard II. A day was appointed for hearing the charge, but the day before the friar was found murdered. Salisbury was visited by Richard II. before his first expedition to Ireland. The citizens espoused the cause of Henry IV., and received letters of thanks from him for their attachment to his cause. The city was honoured by the presence of Henry VI. in 1434 and 1438, and his queen in 1445, when all householders were ordered to provide themselves with "a good gown of blood-colour and a red hood." After Jack Cade's execution one of his quarters was sent here. The year 1484 witnessed a visit from Richard III. and the execution of the Duke of Buckingham, who had been brought hither from Shrewsbury, where he had been betrayed and arrested. "Without arraignment or judgment" (*i.e.*, by martial law, having been taken in arms), "he was in the open market-place, on a new scaffold, put to death. This death he received at the hands of King Richard" (III.), "whom he had before, in his affairs, purposes, enterprises, holden, sustained, and set forward above all Godde's forbode."—*Hall's "Chronicle."* The fact is, "the deep-revolving, witty Buckingham" had become dangerous.

"The first was I that helped thee to the crown;
The last was I that felt thy tyranny:
Oh, in the battle think on Buckingham,
And die in terror of thy guiltiness!"

Richard III., Act v., scene 3.

The execution is said to have taken place in the yard of the *Blue Boar Inn*, which stood on the site of the present *Saracen's Head*. A headless skeleton, wanting the right arm, exhumed in the kitchen of this inn in 1838, is supposed to have been Buckingham's, but more trustworthy accounts state that he was buried at the Grey Friars, London. The then Bishop of Salisbury, Lionel Woodville, was brother-in-law to the Duke, and his death, which occurred the next year, is supposed to have been hastened by the bloody end of his relative and the accumulated sorrows of his house. Salisbury was now frequently honoured by visits from royal personages. Henry VII. was here in 1491 and again, accompanied by his queen and his mother, in 1496; Henry VIII. and Anne Boleyn in 1535; Edward VI. in 1551. In Mary's reign the fires of martyrdom were kindled here, and three men were burnt as heretics at Fishertonfield March 23rd, 1556. Elizabeth was here on her progress to Bristol, 1574, and received a present of "a cup of gold and £20 in gold, whereat her Majesty was both merry and pleasant." Salisbury was a favourite place of retirement of James I., who liked the freedom from restraint and facilities for the chase he found there. His first visit was in 1603, soon after his coronation, when he received, not a gold, but a silver-gilt, cup and £20, and his queen £20 also. James always occupied the palace during his visits, in the hall of which, in 1618, he created Robert, Viscount Lisle, Earl of Leicester, and William Compton

Earl of Northampton. Sir Walter Raleigh spent a few sad days here on his last journey to London. James was here, and Raleigh sought to gain time by feigning sickness by the aid of a French quack named Manourie. Here he wrote his "Apology for the Voyage to Guiana." Charles I. came here in 1625, when Bp. Davenant declined to resign his palace to him, and the King moved on to Wilton. The year 1627 saw a much less welcome guest, the plague. A general panic and flight ensued. The excellent Mayor, John Ivie, proved himself a true Christian hero, and relieved the poor, checked insubordination, and repressed rapine and excess. At the period of the Rebellion it was alternately occupied by either party as they marched through the country: by Ludlow, then by Dodington, and next by Waller, who in turn retreated before the King and Prince Maurice. In 1645 Ludlow, with a few horse-men, held the Close against Sir Marmaduke Langdale, and for several hours maintained an unequal fight in the market-place and adjoining streets, his troopers on one occasion charging through the narrow passage by the Poultry Cross. October 17th of the same year Cromwell was here after the siege of Basing House. After the battle of Worcester Charles II. lay concealed for a few days near Salisbury, and at the King's Arms, St. John Street, his friends met in secret and successfully planned his escape. The city then regained the tranquillity it had lost, but in 1655 it was once again disturbed by the abortive rising of Penruddocke and his companions, who entered it in considerable force at the time of the assizes, captured the judges and sheriff, and proclaimed Charles II., but meeting with no sympathy, retired, and

were soon afterwards seized and executed. The memoirs of the excellent Lady Fanshawe present us with a pleasing picture. She and her family were accompanying Sir Richard, who was on his way to Portugal, charged with an important public mission, August, 1662. "My husband and I and our children," she writes, "having begged of the Bishop (Humphry Henchman) a blessing at his own house, dined at Blandford." Charles II. took refuge here from fear of the plague in 1665. The last event of moment of which this city was the scene occurred at the memorable crisis of the revolution of 1688. The army had been concentrated at Salisbury to oppose the Prince of Orange, but, his landing having been effected in Torbay, it hastened forward to welcome him, and James, who had taken up his quarters in the palace, November 19th, found it necessary to retrace his steps. On the 4th of December the Prince of Orange triumphantly entered the city, "with the same military pomp he had displayed at Exeter, and was lodged in the palace James had occupied but a few days before."—*Macaulay*. A few days later William removed to Littlecote, where he received the welcome intelligence of the King's flight from London.

fectly original. There is scarcely any trace of French or foreign influence; everything is the result of the native elaboration during the previous century and a half. The apsidal arrangement, so universal in Norman cathedrals, has disappeared never to return (except in Westminster Abbey and Lichfield); and the square E. termination may henceforth be considered as established in this country—the early symbol of that independence which eventually led to the Reformation. When viewed from any point E. of the great transept, it displays one of the best proportioned and, at the same time, most poetic designs of the Middle Ages. The spire is among the most imposing objects of which Gothic architecture can boast."

The ground plan shows the fully developed arrangement of a second or choir transept, found also at Canterbury, Lincoln, Worcester, Beverley, and Rochester, and at Clugny, in France. The Lady Chapel projects at a lower altitude at the E. extremity, and there is a lofty and dignified N. porch. To the S. of the nave are the cloisters and chapter-house, and beyond them the bishop's palace.

The ***CATHEDRAL** is the chief object of attraction to every visitor to Salisbury. In some respects it may be considered the first of our English cathedrals, and, taken as a whole, it must always hold a very high place among them.

"In this church," writes Mr. Fergusson, "we have a plan not only extremely beautiful, but per-

The foundation was laid by Bp. Poore, April 28th, 1220: the first stone for the Pope, Honorius III., who had consented to the removal of the church from Old Sarum; the second for Stephen Langton, Archbishop of Canterbury, then absent with the young King, Henry III., in the marches in Wales; and the third for Bp. Poore himself. The fourth stone was laid by William Longespée,

Earl of Salisbury, and the fifth by the Countess Elaide Vitri, his wife. Others of the nobles and clergy who were present then added to the foundations; and when the great body of the nobles returned with the King from Wales, many of them visited Salisbury, "and each laid his stone, binding himself to some special contribution for a period of seven years." In five years' time (1225) the work was so far advanced that three altars were consecrated by Bp. Poore. Bp. Poore's immediate successors, Robert Bingham (1229-46), William of York (1247-56), and Giles of Bridport (1257-62), carried on with great zeal the building of the new cathedral, which in 1258, during the episcopate of Bp. Giles, was "new hallowed" by Archbp. Boniface of Savoy, in presence of Henry III. and his queen. Before the completion of the cathedral, William Longespée died, and was buried in it; and the bodies of three bishops—Osmund, Roger, and Jocelin—were brought to it from Old Sarum. Elias de Dereham, a personal friend of Bp. Poore's, acted as clerk of the works for the first twenty years, and a certain "Robertus" for the twenty following. The cost of the whole work is said to have been 40,000 marks, or £26,666 13s. 4d. This sum was collected by contributions from the prebendaries themselves, by collections from different dioceses, to each of which a prebendary of Salisbury was duly despatched, and by liberal grants from various benefactors, such as Alicia de Bruere, who gave all the stone necessary for the work during twelve years.

The cloisters and chapter-house were commenced during the episcopate of Walter de la Wyle (1263-71), and perhaps completed in that of his successor, Robert de Wykhampton (1270-84). The spire (which seems, however, apparently to have formed no part of the original plan) was erected in all probability between 1300 and 1330.

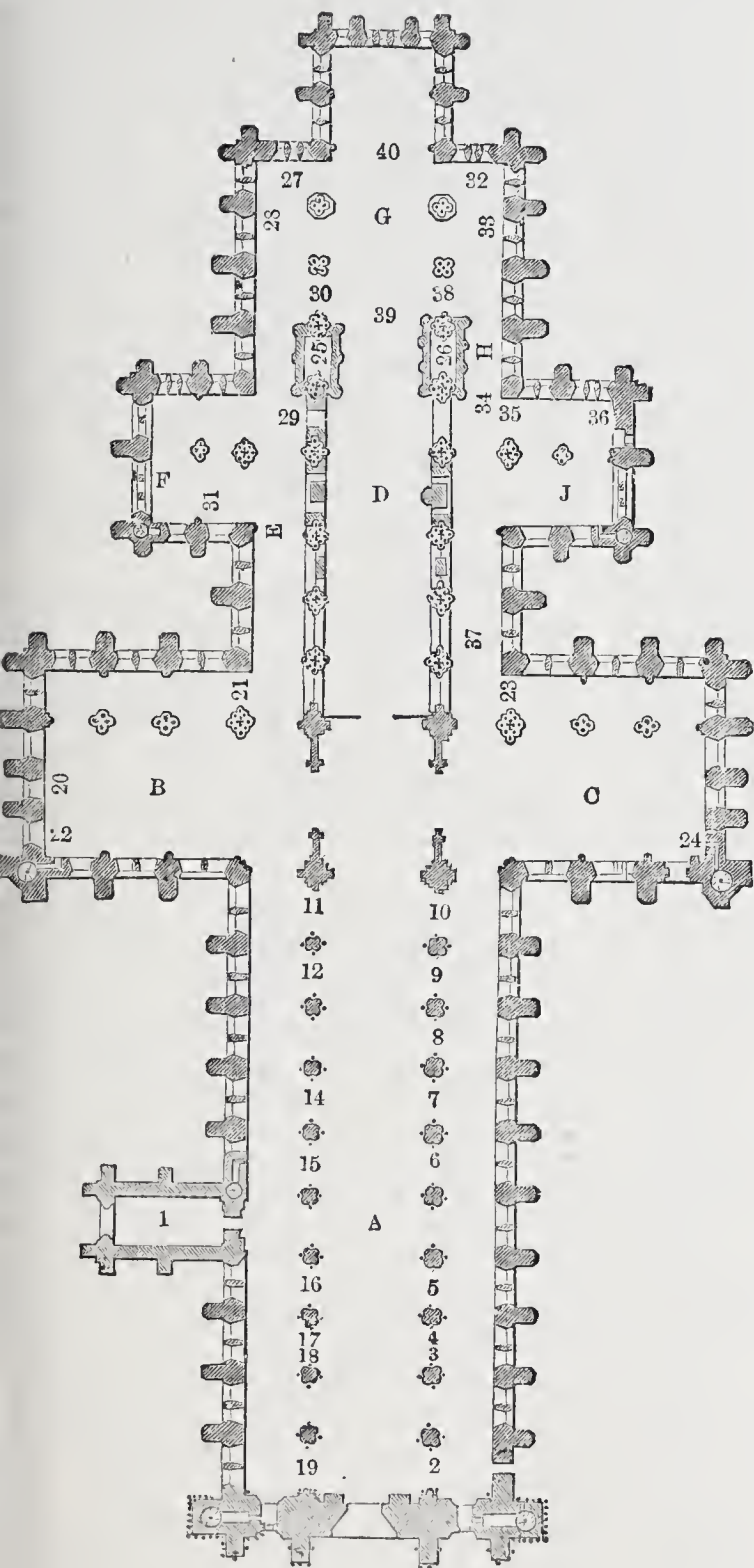
The history of no English cathedral is so clear and so readily traceable as that of Salisbury. With the exception of St. Hugh's choir at Lincoln (commenced 1192), it was the first great church built in England in what was then the new, or Pointed style (E.E.), of which it still remains, as a whole, one of the finest and most complete examples. The cathedral is built throughout with freestone obtained from the Chilmark quarries, situated about 12 m. from Salisbury, towards Hindon, and still worked. The stone belongs to the Portland beds of the oolite. The pillars and pilasters of the interior are of Purbeck shell-marble. The local rhyme in which the cathedral is celebrated may here be quoted; it is attributed by Goodwin, who gives a Latin version of it, to a certain Daniel Rogers:—

"As many days as in one year there be,
So many windows in this church you see.
As many marble pillars here appear
As there are hours through the fleeting
year.
As many gates as moons one here does
view,
Strange tale to tell, yet not more strange
than true."

The usual alterations took place in Salisbury Cathedral at the Reformation, when much of the painted glass is said to have

REFERENCES.

- A. Nave.
 B. North Transept.
 C. South Transept.
 D. Choir.
 E. North Choir Aisle.
 F. North-east Transept.
 G. Eastern Aisles and Lady Chapel.
 H. South Choir Aisle.
 J. South-east Transept.
1. North Porch.
 2. Monument assigned to Bp. Herman.
 3. Bp. Jocelyn (?).
 4. Bp. Roger (?).
 5. Unknown tomb.
 6. Bp. Beauchamp.
 7. Robert, Lord Hungerford.
 8. Lord Stourton.
 9. Bp. de la Wyle.
 10. Longespée, the first Earl of Salisbury.
 11. Sir John Cheney.
 12. Walter, Lord Hungerford, and his wife.
 14. Sir John de Montacute.
 15. Unknown tomb.
 16. Unknown tomb.
 17. Longespée, the second Earl of Salisbury.
 18. Boy-bishop.
 19. Unknown tomb.
 20. Bp. Blythe.
 21. Bp. Woodville.
 22. Staircase leading to Tower.
 23. Bp. Mitford.
 24. Doorway to Cloisters and Chapter-house.
 25. Bp. Audley's Chantry.
 26. Lord Hungerford's Chantry.
 27. Sir Thomas Gorges.
 28. Bp. Roger de Mortival.
 29. Bp. Scammel (?).
 30. Bp. Poore, or Bingham.
 31. Brass of Bp. Wyvil.
 32. Edward, Earl of Hertford.
 33. William Wilton.
 34. Bp. William of York (?).
 35. Bp. Giles of Bridport.
 36. Doorway to Muniment-room.
 37. Sir Richard Mompesson.
 38. Bp. Hamilton.
 39. Altar.
 40. Bp. Osmund.



GROUND PLAN OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.

been removed by Bp. Jewell. Although desolate and abandoned, it escaped material profanation during the Civil War; and workmen were even employed to keep it in repair, replying, says Dr. Pope ("Life of Bishop Ward"), when questioned by whom they were sent, "Those who employ us will pay us; trouble not yourselves to inquire; whoever they are, they do not desire to have their names known." At the Restoration, a report of the general condition of the cathedral was supplied by Sir Christopher Wren, and certain additions for the strengthening of the spire were made at his recommendation. The great work of destruction was reserved for a later period, and for more competent hands. Under Bp. Barrington (1782-91) the architect James Wyatt was unhappily let loose upon Salisbury. He swept away screens, chapels, and porches; desecrated and destroyed the tombs of warriors and prelates; obliterated ancient paintings; flung stained glass by cart-loads into the city ditch; and levelled with the ground the campanile, of the same date as the cathedral itself, which stood on the N. side of the churchyard. "It was multangular in form, surmounted by a leaden spire with walls and buttresses similar to the chapter-house and cloisters, and a single pillar of Purbeck marble in the centre, supporting the bells and spire with its leaden covering." His operations, which at the time were pronounced "tasteful, effective, and judicious," will be noticed more at length in their proper places.

The **Close**, within which the

cathedral stands, was first surrounded with an embattled wall in the reign of Edward III., who in 1326 granted a licence for this purpose, and in 1331 issued letters patent to the Bishop and canons empowering them to remove for the building of the Close wall and of the tower the walls of the cathedral of Old Sarum, which was still standing. A large number of carved bosses of Norm. date, supposed with reason to be fragments of this cathedral, may still be seen over the N. gate of the Close, and in the wall S. of that leading into St. Anne's Street.

The Close has 3 gateways: **Harnham Gate** to the S.; **St. Anne's** to the N.E., with a chapel over it; and the **Cemetery Gate** at the end of the *High Street*, ornamented with a statue of James I. by Beckwith, on the S. front.

Passing into the Close, the visitor finds himself confronted by the great cathedral, rising grey and time-honoured from the broad lawn of greensward that encircles it, and well contrasted by groups of fine trees, here, as ever, increasing the effect of noble architecture. The position is unusually clear and open. "Nor can the most curious, not to say cavilling, eye," says old Fuller, "desire anything which is wanting in this edifice, except possibly an ascent, seeing such who address themselves hither for their devotions can hardly say with David, 'I will go up into the house of the Lord.'" The best point of view is from the N.E., which Rickman has pronounced "the best general view of a cathedral to be had in England,

displaying the various portions of this interesting building to the greatest advantage." "The bold breaking of the outline by the two transepts, instead of cutting it up by buttresses and pinnacles," to which the N. porch may be added, "is a master-stroke of art; and the noble central tower, which, though erected at a later age, was evidently intended from the first, crowns the whole composition with singular beauty."—*Fergusson*.

The point to which the attention of the stranger is at once drawn is, of course, the grand peculiarity of Salisbury, the "silent finger" of its **spire**,

"The thin steeple
That tops the fair fane of Poore's olden
Episcopal See,"

which must always attract the admiration of those who see it, as it did that of Leland, who wrote, "The tower of stone and the high pyramis of stone on it is a noble and memorable piece of work." This is the loftiest spire in England, rising 404 ft. above the pavement (Chichester, said, but very doubtfully, to have been built in imitation of it, is 277 ft. in height; Norwich, 313 ft.), and its summit is 48 ft. above the top of St. Paul's. The central spire of Amiens, a mere *flèche* (422 ft.), is 18 ft. higher than Salisbury; and that of Strasburg (468 ft.), the highest in the world, 64 ft. It may well be doubted, however, whether in general effect and in grace of proportion Salisbury should not occupy the first place.

The E.E. portion terminates with the first story, about 8 ft. above the roof; the two addi-

tional stories and the spire above them date, as has already been stated, from the reign of Edward III. At each angle of the tower is an octagonal stair-turret, crowned with a small crocketed spire. The great spire, itself octagonal, rises from between four richly decorated pinnacles. Its walls are 2 ft. in thickness from the bottom to a height of 20 ft.; from thence to the summit their thickness is only 9 inches. The spire is filled with a remarkable frame of timber-work, which served as a scaffold during its erection. Whilst making some repairs in 1762, the workmen found a cavity on the S. side of the capstone, in which was a leaden box, enclosing a second of wood, which contained a piece of much-decayed silk or fine linen, no doubt a relic (possibly of the Virgin, to whom the cathedral is dedicated) placed there in order to avert lightning and tempest.

Owing to a settlement in the two W. tower piers, the spire, as a plumb-line dropped from the vane indicates, is twenty-three inches out of the perpendicular. Great fears were in consequence entertained at one time for the safety of the building, but no further movement has been detected for the last two centuries, and it was strengthened by the late Sir Gilbert Scott.

The **west front**, recently restored, is not a little striking. It was no doubt the portion of the cathedral last completed, as is especially indicated by the occurrence among its mouldings of the ball-flower, characteristic, for the most part, of the Dec. style of the 14th century. The front

itself consists of a central compartment, rising into a steep gable, and flanked by a screen wall, the angles of which are supported by square buttress towers, capped by small spires. In the central compartment is a triple porch with canopies, and the W. window, a triplet divided by slender clustered columns. The entire front is divided into five stories by its mouldings, and the canopies of its arcades shelter a host of more than a hundred statues, which have been restored to their places. Our Lord in majesty fills the apex of the gable. Below the sculptures are ranged in five tiers, embodying the divisions of the "Te Deum Laudamus": (1) angels; (2) Old Testament patriarchs and prophets; (3) New Testament apostles and evangelists; (4) doctors of the Church, virgins and martyrs; (5) bishops and monarchs of the Church of England connected with Salisbury. In the niches of the W. portal are statues of the Blessed Virgin Mary with angels, and above the doorway the Virgin and Child (see the "Legend of Christian Art," by *Rev. H. Armfield*, for a full description). The **consecration crosses**, on different parts of the exterior, are large and numerous. The **North Porch**, which serves as the usual entrance to the cathedral, recently restored by his widow in memory of Dean Hamilton, under the late Mr. G. E. Street's care, is lofty and fine, lined with a double arcade, and having a chamber in its upper story.

We now enter the **nave**, and the visitor, if he has passed into

it through the N. porch, should proceed at once to the W. extremity for the sake of the general view, which, in spite of a certain coldness arising from want of stained glass, is exceedingly beautiful, the perfect uniformity of the architecture contributing not a little towards it. Even Wyatt's arrangement of the monuments on the continuous plinth between each pier, monstrous in its principle and altogether inaccurate in its execution, has a certain solemn grandeur. The nave itself is divided into ten bays by clustered columns of Purbeck marble. Above the nave arches runs the *triforium*, and above again the clerestory windows (triple lancets) are placed, each in a bay of the vaulting. This, which is plain, without ridge-ribs, rises from clustered shafts with foliated capitals. The windows in the nave aisles are double lancets.

A certain plainness of mouldings and deficiency of elaborate ornamentation may be observed throughout the cathedral. The plate tracery of the triforium is characteristic of the first period of E.E. architecture.

The height of the nave of Salisbury is 81 ft., the width 82.

The greater part of the ancient **stained glass** throughout the cathedral which had survived Jewell's Protestant zeal was removed and destroyed during Wyatt's "restoration." The scanty fragments that remain were collected and placed about 30 years since in their present situations in the W. triplet of the nave, in the W. window of each aisle of the nave, and in some other parts of the cathedral.

The *W. triplet* is filled with glass of dates ranging from E.E. to cinquecento. The E.E. glass is of two periods, and consists of the remains of a Jesse window in the lower part and sides of the central light of the *W. triplet* (c. 1240), and of some medallions removed from the windows of the chapter-house, not earlier than 1270, with other later portions.

The present arrangement of the *monuments* in the nave was made by Wyatt in 1789. Not only have they been displaced from their original positions, by which their historical interest has materially suffered, but the tombs on which the effigies are lying "are ignorantly made up of fragments evidently belonging to totally different erections and to distinct periods from those to which the sculptured figures they support are attributable." Beginning at the *W. end*, they are as follows:—

On the S. side: (2) A flat coffin-shaped stone, said to have been brought from Old Sarum, and to have covered the remains of Bp. Herman (d. 1078). There is, however, no evidence that they were ever removed from Old Sarum, and still less that they lie in this spot. (3, 4) Immediately beyond are two slabs with figures in low relief, which are among the earliest examples of their class in England, their only rivals being the sepulchral slabs of two abbots (dates 1086 and 1172) in the cloisters of Westminster Abbey. They were said to have been brought from Old Sarum, and are supposed, though perhaps with little probability, to

represent Bp. Roger (d. 1142) and Bp. Jocelin (d. 1189).

In the slab of Bp. Roger "the treatment of the drapery and other parts is very characteristic of the rudest era of sculpture, closely resembling, in many respects that will occur to the antiquary, what is called the Etruscan style." The foliage and ornaments are of early E.E. character.

"The head of Bp. Jocelin, though of very early work, is evidently a later addition to the original figure; the action of the right hand displays great feeling and considerable power of art."—*R. Westmacott*. On what appears to be the central ornament of his cope are the words "Affer opem: devenies in idem"; on the vertical edge of the slab is an inscription, commencing at the head of the figure.

(5) An altar-tomb of the 15th century, unknown. (6) An altar-tomb removed from the *N. transept aisle*, and now containing the remains of Bp. Beauchamp (d. 1481), whose chantry was destroyed by Wyatt, and whose own tomb was "mis-laid" during the operations of the same great destructive. (7) The effigy of Robert, Lord Hungerford (d. 1459), who served in France under the Regent Duke of Bedford, and whose widow, Margaret, daughter of Lord Botreaux, founded the Hungerford Chapel, destroyed, like Beauchamp's, by Wyatt. The tomb on which the effigy rests was made up from portions of that chapel. The figure has a collar of SS. round the neck, and is in plate-armour—an excellent example, showing an approach to that extreme splendour which was

attained under Richard III. All the pieces of armour are beautifully ridged, the origin of the fluted style so prevalent during the reign of Henry VII.—*Meyrick*. The highly ornamented sword (now lost) and dagger are suspended from a jewelled girdle. (8) Charles, Lord Stourton, the original place of which was at the E. end of the church, near the Somerset monument. The 3 apertures on each side, representing wells or fountains, are emblematic of the six sources of the Stour, which rise near Stourhead, the ancient seat of the Stourtons, and occur in their armorial bearings. Lord Stourton was hanged March 6th, 1556, in the market-place at Salisbury, for the murder of the two Hartgills, father and son, for thwarting his design of extorting a bond not to marry again from his mother, the dowager Lady Stourton, over whom they had considerable influence.

The only concession made to Lord Stourton's noble birth was that he should be hanged with a silken cord. A twisted wire with a noose, emblematic of the halter, was hanging over the tomb as a memorial of his crime as late as the year 1775.

(9) The next effigy, much mutilated, is that of Bp. de la Wyle (d. 1271). The base is made up of fragments of much later date. (10) Last on this side, on his tomb, is the fine and very interesting effigy of William Longespée (d. 1226), first Earl of Salisbury of that name, and natural son of Henry II. by Fair Rosamond. "The manly, warrior character of the figure is particularly striking, even in the recumbent attitude, while the turn of

the head and the graceful flow of lines in the right hand and arm, with the natural heavy fall of the chain-armour on that side, exhibit a feeling of art which would not do discredit to a very advanced school."—*R. Westmacott*. The effigy is entirely in chain-mail, covering the mouth as well as the chin in an unusual manner. Over the mail is the short cyclas or surcoat. On the Earl's shield are the six golden lioncels also borne by his grandfather, Geoffrey, Count of Anjou. Longespée acquired the earldom of Salisbury through marriage with its heiress, the Countess Ela. The Earl and his countess, as has already been mentioned, had assisted in laying the foundation-stones of the cathedral in which he was now interred. The slab and effigy of this monument are of stone, and the effigy shows the traces of the colour with which it was enriched. The base is of wood, and all has been richly painted and gilt. The wood within the arcade was covered with linen, on which was laid a white ground for gilding or silvering. On the N. side the linen, with its silvering, remains, and each arch has a different diaper pattern hatched with a point on the silver.

On the N. side of the nave, returning westward (11), opposite William Longespée, a fine monument of alabaster to Sir John Cheyney (d. 1509). Round the neck, appended to a collar of SS., appears the portcullis badge of Henry VII. Sir John, who was of extraordinary size and strength, was the standard-bearer of Henry of Richmond at the battle of Bosworth, and was unhorsed by

Richard III. in that desperate final rush when the King killed Sir William Brandon, and making a savage blow at Richmond himself, was overpowered by numbers, thrown from his horse, and killed. When the remains of Sir John Cheyney were removed by Wyatt from their original resting-place, the traditions of his great size were confirmed, the thigh-bone measuring 21 inches, nearly 3 inches longer than ordinary. (12) The tombs below Sir John's are those of Walter, Lord Hungerford, and his first wife, Catherine Peverell. The brasses have been removed. (13) [The memorial, if not the actual tomb, of Bp. Osmund (d. 1099), the sainted patron of Salisbury, which was transported to this spot by the unspeakable Wyatt, has been removed to the Lady Chapel, its original place.] (14) The effigy of Sir John de Montacute (d. 1389), younger son of William, the first Montacute, Earl of Salisbury. He was present at the battle of Cressy, and served in Scotland under Richard II. His effigy "affords a good specimen of highly ornamented gauntlets, of a contrivance for the easier bending of the body, at the bottom of the breastplate, and of the elegant manner of twisting the hanging sword-belt, pendent from the military girdle, round the upper part of the sword."—*Meyrick*. The two next altar-tombs (15, 16) are unappropriated. (17) The effigy of the *second* Longespée, Earl of Salisbury (d. 1250), son of Earl William, already noticed. It is cross-legged; and the chain-armour has elbow-plates and "poleyns," or small plates of mail at the knees. Ear William II. was

twice a crusader: in 1240, returning in 1242; and again in 1249, when he joined St. Louis of France at Damietta. Early in the following year he accompanied a body of Christians, led by the brother of Louis, towards Cairo. They were surprised and surrounded by the Saracens; and Longespée, with his standard-bearer, fell fighting valiantly. His remains were at length delivered to the Christians, who deposited them in the Church of the Holy Cross at Acre. This monument is said to have been raised by his mother. (18) * Beyond is a curious monument of E.E. character, usually called that of "the Boy-bishop," but more probably merely a diminutive episcopal effigy, placed here c. 1680, when it was found buried under the seating of the choir. This curious tomb (parallels to which are to be found at Abbey Dore, in Herefordshire, at Winchester Cathedral, and at West Wittering, in Sussex) has created much controversy. "The curiosity of critics," writes Fuller, "is best entertained with the tomb in the north of the nave of the church, where lieth a monument in stone of a little boy, habited all in episcopal robes, a mitre upon his head, a crozier in his hand, and the rest accordingly. . . . Many justly admired that either a bishop could be so small in person or a child so great in clothes." The boy, or choral bishop, was elected by the boys of the choir on St. Nicholas' Day (December 6th); and until Holy Innocents' Day (December 28th) he sustained the dignity of bishop the other choristers representing his prebendaries. A solemn

service, with a procession, was performed by the children on the eve of Innocents' Day. It is undoubtedly recorded that if the boy-bishop died during his term of office, he was to be buried in episcopal vestments and according to pontifical rite. The ceremonies connected with the boy-bishop, which were not confined to Salisbury, were forbidden by Henry VIII., and finally abolished by Elizabeth. It is possible, from what has been said above, that this stone may commemorate a boy-bishop who died during his term of office, but it is perhaps more probable that it may represent an actual bishop (possibly Wykehampton, ob. 1284), or most probable that it marked the shrine where some part of a bishop (most likely the heart) was interred, the custom of having different parts of a body buried in different places being not uncommon during the 12th and 13th centuries. (19) The last tomb on this side—an ancient coffin-shaped sarcophagus—is that of some unknown personage. Against the W. wall of the nave, on either side of the entrance, are—N., a monument for Dr. Turberville, an oculist of Salisbury, who died 1696 (it will be remembered that Pepys consulted him about the condition of his eyes, and spoke of him as a person of great celebrity in his profession); and south, a monument of Rysbräck for Thomas, Lord Wyndham, died 1745.

From the nave we enter the **north transept**, passing under the wide Perp. arch, which (as at Canterbury and Wells) was inserted early in the 15th cen-

tury by way of counter-thrust against the weight of the central tower, under which the central piers had already given way to some extent, as will be at once perceived. The triforium and clerestory of the nave are carried round the transept; the triforium, on the N. side, being replaced by two-light windows of very elegant character. The clerestory window above, with its slender pilasters and graceful flow of lines, deserves especial notice. Each transept has an E. aisle divided by clustered piers into three chapels. The screens which formerly enclosed them were swept away by Wyatt.

The *monuments* to be noticed in this transept are three by Flaxman, the most important to William Benson Earle, the bas-relief on which represents the Good Samaritan. The other two are to Walter and William Long. "There is nothing extraordinary in the design, but the workmanship is good, and there is real feeling in the heads."—*Waagen*. The monument to James Harris, author of "Hermes," is by *Bacon*, that to his son, the first Earl of Malmesbury, by *Chantrey*. The seated figure of Sir Richard Colt Hoare, the historian of Wiltshire, is the work of *Lucas*, a native of Salisbury. Remark also, against the W. wall of the transept, a memorial of *John Britton*, one of the fathers of modern archæology, placed here, in the cathedral of his native county, by the Royal Institute of British Architects, in 1857. Against the N. wall is the mutilated effigy of a bishop, probably Bp. Blyth, d. 1499 (20); and partly in the E. aisle is a large

tomb with canopy, assigned to Bp. Woodville, d. 1484 (21).

A staircase in the angle of the transept leads upward to the *tower*, which may be ascended by staircases in each of its corner turrets. The top of the tower is called the "Eight Doors," from the double doors on each side, through which the visitor will obtain magnificent views over the town and surrounding country. The first story of the tower is of E.E. date, and originally formed a lantern, open to the nave. It is surrounded by an arcade of slender pilasters. The ascent of the *spire*—which is a formidable undertaking—is made internally by a series of slender ladders as far as a little door about 40 ft. below the vane; and from that point the adventurous climber has to scale the outside by means of hooks attached to the walls. The interior is filled with a timber frame, consisting of a central piece with arms and braces. This entire frame, the arms of which were made to support floors which served as scaffolds whilst the spire was building, is hung to the capstone of the spire by iron cross-bars, and by the iron standard of the vane, which is fixed to the upper part of the central piece. Great additional strength is thus given to the whole shell of the spire, and especially to its summit. The arms and braces are not mortised into the central piece, but are so fitted as to be removed at pleasure, for the sake of easy repair.

The **south transept** is in all respects a counterpart of the north. The windows of the S. end of this transept are filled with grisaille glass, that in the

two uppermost lights being E.E. The rest contain glass by Bell in memory of the late Dean Hamilton. The principal monuments in this transept are, between the S. choir aisle and that of the transept, the very fine altar-tomb, with effigy, of Bp. Mitford, d. 1407 (23). The panels and arches of the tomb deserve notice; and the effigy itself, of white marble, is unusually solemn and impressive. In the hollow moulding of the canopy are birds bearing scrolls, with the inscription, "Honor Deo et gloria." Against the E. wall of the aisle is a small quatrefoil in Caen stone, enclosing a floriated cross, designed by *Pugin*, for Lieutenant William Fisher, killed at Mood-kee, December 18th, 1845. In the middle chapel is a very elaborate altar-tomb, within an open arcade, richly ornamented with mosaics and coloured marbles, designed by Street, to Major Jacob (d. 1862), erected by the Wilts Rifle Volunteers, and near the S.E. angle a modern memorial, of unusual character, for Bp. Fisher, tutor of the Princess Charlotte of Wales (d. 1825, and buried at Windsor). It consists of an altar-tomb beneath a canopy, on which repose the pastoral staff, mitre, and Bible. Against the S. wall is the monument of Edward Poore, a descendant of the founder of the cathedral (d. 1780), and his wife Rachel, and on the W. wall the monument, with bust, of Lord Chief Justice Hyde, Lord Clarendon's first cousin (d. 1665). Here is also a slab to a Salisbury man of more recent note, the Rt. Hon. H. Fawcett, M.P. At the S.W. angle is a good double piscina. A door at the

S.W. angle of this transept leads into the cloisters and chapter-house (see *post*).

Returning to the central tower arches (the lierne vault above which is Perp.), we enter the **choir**, which has been restored as a memorial to the late Bp. W. K. Hamilton, and reopened in 1876. The **choir screen**, formed of fragments from the Hungerford and Beauchamp chapels, destroyed by Wyatt, has given place to a very elaborately worked, light, open screen of brass, by Skidmore, terminating in a lofty cross, the gift of Mrs. Sidney Lear. The **organ**, built by Green, of Isleworth, the gift of George III. in the character of a "Berkshire gentleman" (until 1836 Berkshire formed part of the diocese of Salisbury), has been removed to St. Thomas's Church, and a very large instrument by Willis, of immense power and great sweetness of tone, the gift of Miss Chafyn Grove, has been erected, half on the N. and half on the S. side of the second bay of the choir. The bellows and the machinery for working them (a gas engine) encumber the chapels of the N. transepts.

The architecture of the *choir*—piers, triforium, and clerestory—differs in no respect from that of the nave. Above the 3 arches at the E. end, the triforium, instead of its ordinary grouping, is formed by five small arches with cinquefoil headings. Above is a triplet window, with a blind paneling on either side. The glass in this window, by Pearson after a design by Mortimer, the subject of which is the elevation of the brazen serpent, was given by the Earl of Radnor in 1781, and is

not without merit. "The colouring is lively, and the picture has a certain degree of brilliancy."—*C. Winston.*

The marble and stone work of the choir has been restored, and the exterior of the chantry chapel of Bp. Audley has been made good; the floor of the choir being lowered 10 inches to its original level. The pavement of the choir is a combination of encaustic tiles, copied from old tiles found in the cathedral, and of Purbeck and foreign marbles. The steps are placed in the old positions, as indicated by the remains of the paving and by the references to them in the Sarum Office. The canopied tombs of Bp. Bingham, N., and of Bp. Yorke, S., which had been hidden by wooden screens, have been laid open and repaired. The paintings on the ceiling of the choir, which were plainly discernible through Wyatt's colour-wash, have been carefully and skilfully reproduced by Messrs. Clayton and Bell. These paintings were executed in the latter part of the 13th century, shortly after the consecration of the cathedral. The design consists of a "Majesty," painted in a vesica, or oval, over the centre of the small transept. It is believed that this was the original situation of the high altar, and it will be noted that the capitals of the Purbeck marble shafts supporting the arches at this point are the only ones in the building which are carved with foliage. Our Lord is surrounded by the four Evangelists and the twelve Apostles. To the W. each section of the groining contains 8 medallions, representing patriarchs and prophets, each

bearing a scroll with a Messianic prophecy. The series ends with John the Baptist at the S.W. corner. To the eastward of the figure of the Saviour are 12 medallions representing the seasons of the year.

The E. end of the choir and the W. bay on the S. side have had their original colouring restored; but the experiment can hardly be called encouraging.

The **stalls** and bishop's shrine, which date from the episcopate of Bp. *Hume* (1766-82), and had been remodelled by Wyatt, have been replaced by stalls in carved oak, the upper row being mostly original, the rest from the designs of Sir G. G. Scott. The absence of canopies gives a singularly naked aspect to the choir. The new **bishop's throne** was also designed by Scott.

The altar, which had been removed by Wyatt to the extreme end of the Lady Chapel, has been replaced in its old position, and a magnificent reredos erected by Earl Beauchamp in memory of Bp. Beauchamp (d. 1482). The 3 arches behind the reredos have been screened with light iron grilles. The pulpit is E.E., of Tisbury stone and Purbeck marble.

Opposite each other, in the second bay of the choir counting from the E., are the chapels of (25) Bp. Audley and of (26) Walter, Lord Hungerford, the latter removed in 1778 by the Earl of Radnor, who claimed descent from the Hungerford family. **Bp. Audley's chantry** (d. 1524) is one of the few monuments occupying their original places in the cathedral. It is a very fine example of Late Perp.

The arms and initials of the founder appear on the shields projecting from the cornice and supporting the episcopal mitre. The interior, which retains much bright colouring, has a rich fan-vault. The **Hungerford Chapel**, removed from the nave in 1778 (c. 1429), opposite, interesting as an example of early ironwork, has suffered more serious degradation, in spite of its restoration and blazoned shields. It has been converted into a pew for the Radnor family, for which purpose it was removed from its proper situation in the nave. The upper part is entirely of iron, with the projections gilt. The arms on the different compartments of the base are those of the founder and his two wives. On the ceiling within are a series of bearings, illustrating the descent of Lord Radnor from the Hungerfords. Iron chapels, such as the present, are rare, especially of so early a date. The finest and most elaborate example is the chantry of Edward IV. (d. 1483) in St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

On the N. side of the altar is the effigy (30) attributed to Bp. Poore, but possibly that of Bp. Bingham, under a canopy, restored to its original place from the N.E. transept, to which it had been removed by Wyatt. The effigy, in many respects a striking one, may very well be of his period. Over the centre of the arch is an angel supporting the circle and crescent of the sun and moon. The leafed heading of the Bishop's staff is unusually graceful.

Opposite, on the S. side, beneath a canopy designed by Mr.

J. O. Scott, is a white marble effigy of Bp. Hamilton (d. 1854), modelled by the Rev. Hon. Bertram Bouverie, son of Lord Radnor. The window above it is to the memory of Lady Radnor.

From the choir we pass into the low **eastern aisle** behind it. This aisle is narrower and of less importance than the "procession paths" of either Winchester or Exeter; but the slender clustered shafts which separate it from the Lady Chapel give it an unusual grace and beauty. The height of each shaft is 30 ft., and the diameter little more than 10 inches. The **Lady Chapel** is divided by similar clusters and by single shafts into a central and two side-aisles. The slender and almost reed-like columns assist in carrying the vault. At the E. end is a triple lancet, with an additional light on either side, the intervening space being occupied by an exterior buttress. All five lights have been filled with stained glass in commemoration of Dean Lear, representing the principal events in the life of our Saviour. The painting of the vaulted roof has been restored by Messrs. Clayton and Bell, and new pavement laid down, and the Purbeck marble shafts cleansed and restored. The *altar-piece*, below the window, is a curious composition. The three central niches formed the original altar-piece of the Beauchamp Chapel (date 1481), whilst those on either side were constructed from the entrances to that and to the Hungerford Chapel (date 1470), both of which were destroyed by Wyatt. Both were rich and highly decorated, as their remains

fully prove. Of the Beauchamp Chapel it is stated that "there was a custom that on Christmas Day and all the holy days the wives of the mayor and aldermen and gentry of the city came to prayers in Beauchamp's Chapel in the evening, with flambeaux and torches, except on Innocents' Day, when they went to their own parish churches." The canopies of the niches under the side windows of the Lady Chapel were formed by a cornice from the Beauchamp chantry. In this chapel, after his canonization in 1456, was erected the magnificent shrine of St. Osmund. This has disappeared absolutely, and the stone, now replaced in its original situation, is itself only doubtfully connected with this great saint.

On the N. side of the altar, but without any memorial or inscription, are interred six earls and four countesses of Pembroke, the first laid here having been Earl Henry (d. 1601); his countess (d. 1621),

"The glory of all verse,
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother,"

also lies here, unrecorded like the rest. Her epitaph is written on pages more enduring than brass or marble, in the "Arcadia" and in Ben Jonson's (or Browne's) verses. Her son, Earl William (d. 1630), and Earl Philip (d. 1669), the unworthy original of the wonderful picture at Wilton, also repose here.

At the E. end of the **N. choir aisle** is the monument of Sir Thomas Gorges (27), of Longford Castle, and of his widow, Helena Snachenberg, a fine example of "the very worst taste of design." Four twisted pillars

support the entablature with its ornaments—obelisks, globes, spheres, and the cardinal virtues. The effigies of the knight and his lady lie beneath this “heavy load.” The latter accompanied the Princess Cecilia of Sweden to England, where she became one of Queen Elizabeth’s maids of honour, and married first the Marquis of Northampton, and afterwards Sir Thomas Gorges. The monument was erected in the year of her death by her son, Edward, Lord Gorges, Baron of Dundalk. The monumental slab of Bp. Osmund (d. 1099), removed from the nave, to which Wyatt had transferred it, is now placed between the S. choir aisle and the Lady Chapel. Under an arch in the N. wall of this aisle is a tomb with a cross fleury in relief, assigned to Bp. *Roger de Mortival* (28) (d. 1227). The stone slab on which it is set is said to have covered the remains of Bp. *Longespée* (d. 1396), son of the second Earl William Longespée. In front of this arch stands a huge cope-box. In the same aisle, at the back of the choir, occupying the bay W. of Audley Chapel, is the tomb assigned, but questionably, to Bp. *Bingham* (29) (d. 1247). The existing structure seems of later date, and is more probably the tomb of Bp. *Scammell* (1284–87). The crockets of the cinque-foiled arch are enriched with figures of angels, and from the centre rises a lofty tabernacle in 3 stories. The slab was inlaid with a brass, which has disappeared.

The **N.E. transept** or the Chapel of the Close was till recently used for early service.

Across the entrance of this and the opposite S. transept inverted strainer arches, similar to those at Wells, have been introduced to resist the eastward thrust of the spire.

Immediately within the entrance to the transept is the very curious brass (removed from the nave) of (31) Bp. Wyvil (d. 1375). This bishop recovered for the see Sherborne Castle, which King Stephen had seized from Bp. Roger. It had been granted by Edward III. to William Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, against whom the Bishop brought a writ of right. The disputants agreed to abide by the trial by battle, and both produced their champions in the lists. But the matter was compromised, the Earl ceding the castle on payment of 2500 marks. The brass represents the contested castle, with keep and portcullis. At the door of the first ward appears the Bishop with mitre and crosier, bestowing the episcopal benediction on his champion, who stands at the gate of the outer ward in a close-fitting “Jack,” with a battle-axe in his right hand and a shield in his left. The rabbits and hares before the castle gate refer to the chase of Bishop’s Bere, within Windsor Forest, a grant or restitution of which was also procured by Bp. Wyvil.

The gravestone of Bp. Jewell (d. 1571), from which a small brass has been removed, and that of Bp. Gheast (d. 1576), still retaining his effigy, lie near the great brass of Bp. Wyvil. Both were removed from the choir.

A lavatory, of Early Perp. character, which formerly stood near the vestry, and is now placed

in this transept, should also be remarked, also the exquisitely beautiful screenwork, removed by Wyatt from the entrance of the choir on the W. wall. The sculptured heads and foliage are of the most delicately beautiful design and execution.

Returning through the E. aisle, we enter the **S. choir aisle**, at the E. end of which is the stately though tasteless monument (partly blocking the windows) of the unfortunate Edward, Earl of Hertford (d. 1621), and of his still more unfortunate countess, the Lady Catherine Grey, who died in 1563, nearly sixty years before him. The Earl of Hertford was long imprisoned by Elizabeth for his private marriage with the sister of Lady Jane Grey, who had certain claims to the royal succession. His wife, after her release from the Tower, was separated from her husband, and died in the following year. "It is worth while to read the epitaph on his [Lord Hertford's] monument, an affecting testimony to the purity and faithfulness of an attachment rendered still more sacred by misfortune and time. 'Quo desiderio veteres revocavit amores.'"† Charles, Duke of Somerset (the "proud" duke), and his wife, the famous heiress of the Percys, are also interred here; and the monument, which is gilt and painted, was restored by the late Duke of Northumberland.

In the S.E. angle of this aisle is the altar-tomb (formerly assigned to Bp. Wykhampton) of (33) William Wilton, Chancellor of Sarum, 1506-23. The shields on the cornice bear the device of

† Hallam, "Constitutional History of England," chap. ii.

Henry VIII. (a rose) and that of Katharine of Aragon (a pomegranate); the arms of Bp. Audley, Wilton's patron; and of Abingdon Abbey, to which he may have been formerly attached. Other shields display his rebus, the letters W. I. L. on a label, and a *ton* or barrel. Immediately W. of the Hungerford chantry is a tomb from which the brass has been removed (34), ascribed, but most improbably, to Bp. William of York (d. 1267). The very broad ogee canopy, with a heavy finial, is certainly of much later date. Two windows in this aisle, "Angeli Ministrantes" and "Angeli Laudantes," designed by Sir E. Burne-Jones, and executed by William Morris, should be specially noted, being perhaps the finest works in this branch of art executed since the Middle Ages.

*The monument (35) opposite, between the choir aisle and the E. aisle of the transept, is one of the most important and interesting in the cathedral. It is that of Bp. Giles de Bridport (d. 1262), during whose episcopate the cathedral was completed and dedicated. All the details of this remarkable monument deserve the most careful examination. The effigy, at the head of which are small figures of censuring angels, lies beneath a canopy, supported N. and S. by two open arches, with quatrefoils in the heads. Each arch is subdivided by a central pilaster, and springs from clustered shafts, detached. A triangular hood moulding, with crockets and finials of leafage, projects above each arch; and between and beyond the arches pilasters rise to the top of the

canopy, supporting finials of very excellent design. "The sculptures of this monument are indeed remarkable productions for the time of their execution, and in many respects are well worthy the study and imitation of artists of our own day."—*R. Westmacott*. The sculptures both here and in the chapter-house must have been executed by artists who were contemporary with Niccola Pisano (b. circ. 1200, d. 1276).

The **S.E. transept** contains memorial windows of stained glass for the officers and men of the 62nd or Wiltshire Regiment who fell during the campaign of the Sutlej, 1845-46, and for those of the same regiment who fell in the Crimea. Both windows were the gift of surviving comrades. Here is also a tablet for Bowles, the poet (a canon of Salisbury), (d. 1850), and two small ones, erected by him for Hooker and Chillingworth, both prebendaries of this cathedral. Remark also the monuments of Bp. Burgess (d. 1837), of Bp. Seth Ward (d. 1689), and a tablet and bust in memory of Richard Jefferies, the author of "The Gamekeeper at Home," and many other works on nature. On the floor is the gravestone of Dean Young, father of the poet.

On the W. wall is a memorial for Dean Clarke (d. 1757), the friend of Newton.

The **muniment-room**, which is entered from this transept, is a dimly lighted octagon, the oaken roof of which is supported by a central column of wood. In the chests and presses contained in this room are deposited a contemporaneous copy of Magna

Charta, supposed to be the transcript committed to the care of William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, as one of the original witnesses, and the various charters and other documents connected with the cathedral and its property, in admirable preservation and order. There are also preserved here an ancient chalice and paten, a cope of green and gold, an episcopal ring, and a 13th-century wooden pastoral staff.

In the *S. choir aisle*, which we now re-enter, are the monuments of Bp. Davenant (d. 1641); of Bp. Salcot, or Capon (d. 1557); and of (37) Sir Richard Mompesson and his wife (d. 1627). This last is a good example of the time. The grapes and vine-leaves which cluster about the black marble pillars are coloured green and gold.

We may now return to the S.W. transept and pass into the cloisters, above the E. walk of which is the *library*, a long room, built by Bp. Jewell, 1559-71, and fitted up by Bp. Gheaste, 1571-76. The number of printed books is about 5000, and 130 manuscript volumes are also preserved here, many of which are of considerable importance. The earliest is the Gregorian Liturgy, with an Anglo-Saxon version. The pen-drawings of the capital letters are remarkable.

The **cloisters** themselves, which are of later date (late 13th century), and exhibit a more developed style than the rest of the cathedral, are among the finest in England; and nothing can be more beautiful than the contrast of their long grey arcades and graceful windows with

the greensward of the cloister-garth, or "paradise," the "layers of shade" of the dusky cedars in its centre, and the patch of bright blue sky above. The length of each side is 181 ft. The arrangement of the windows, with their large six-foiled openings above, and the double arches below, again subdivided by a slender column, is very striking. The upper part, above the mullions, was originally glazed, and fragments of the stained glass still remain. A blind arcade fills the opposite side, between each bay of the vaulting, which, like that within the cathedral, has no ridge-ribs. The clustered columns at the angles of the cloisters have enriched capitals; the rest are simply moulded. The building of the cloisters must have immediately followed that of the cathedral, since the chapter-house, which opens from them, and is perhaps of slightly later character, dates early in the reign of Edward I., many of whose pennies, during the restoration, were found in those parts of the foundations which required under-pinning. The cloisters were restored by Bp. Denison, who died 1854, and is buried, with his first wife, in the central enclosure. The original Purbeck shafts were then replaced by common stone, "to the no small detriment of the general effect."

In the centre of the E. walk of the cloisters is the entrance to the ***chapter-house**, dating early in the reign of Edward I. It is "a noble octagonal building, having an internal diameter of about 58 ft. Each side is occupied by a large window of four lights,

with an arcade of seven bays below it; the vaulting-ribs fall upon a central pillar, and their filling-in is composed of the same light concrete found throughout the cathedral. Whether there was or was not anciently a high-pointed roof remains a disputed point. All we know is, that the present roof is modern, and that the poinçon has evidently formed part of an older roof contemporary with the building. The great defect of the structure is its want of boldness; externally the buttresses do not project far enough, and internally the small columns at the angles look flat, and resemble reeds. Altogether the impression is left on the spectator that the architect, whoever he might have been, was by no means up to the mark of the designers of Westminster, Canterbury, or Wells." — *W. Burges*. A plinth of stone, supporting 49 niches for as many prebendaries, runs round below the windows; and at the E. end is a raised seat, divided into seven compartments, for the bishop and his principal dignitaries. The arcade, on this side alone, has double shafts. The restoration of the entire building, which had fallen dangerously out of repair, was commenced soon after the death, and as a memorial, of Bp. Denison, under the superintendence of Mr. Clutton; and was reopened with a solemn service, July, 1856. The Purbeck shafts have been cleaned and polished; the floor has been laid with Minton's encaustic tiles; the walls of the arcade have also been diapered (though through a much-to-be-regretted defect in the preparation of the colouring much

of the ornamentation has peeled off); the colouring and gilding of the roof have been restored; the windows have been newly glazed; and, most important of all, the sculptures, which had been much mutilated, have been carefully restored, and are resplendent in all the glories of polychrome.

These ***sculptures** fill the voussours of the arch in the vestibule, and the spandrils of the arcade below the windows in the chapter-house itself, and are among the most interesting remains of early Gothic art which exist either in England or on the Continent. The doorway forming the entrance to the chapter-house from the cloister is of great beauty. The niche in the centre of the arch is at present empty, and it is impossible to determine the subject of the sculpture with which it was filled. A figure of our Lord in glory, a crucifix or a coronation of the Virgin, as “*mater justitiæ, misericordiæ, caritatis*,” and other virtues have all been suggested. In the voussours are fourteen small niches, containing figures of the different virtues trampling on the vices. This subject, partly owing to the popularity of the *Psychomachia* of Prudentius, was an especial favourite throughout the Middle Ages, and almost every large church had its pictured or sculptured virtues and vices. “Canterbury has them incised on the stone historiated pavement round the shrine of Becket; Chartres has them sculptured on the west portal of the N. transept, but without the vices.”—*W. Burges*. These at Salisbury are not very readily interpreted.

Within the chapter-house, starting from the quatrefoil above the entrance, as a centre, “run first a series of heads, representing the various conditions of life at the time the edifice was constructed. Thus we see the shaven monk, the in- and out-door costume of the fine lady, the nun, the merchant, the sailor, the countryman, and many others. Then, above these, and filling in the spandrils of the arcade running below the windows, is the history of man, from the Creation to the delivery of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. It will thus be perceived that the series begins and ends with the ministrations of our Lord.”

The subjects in the arcades are as follows:—

West arcade (left of doorway). (1) God creates the light; (2) creation of the firmament.

North-west arcade. (1) Creation of the earth; (2) creation of sun and moon; (3) creation of fishes and birds; (4) creation of beasts, and of Adam and Eve; (5) God rests on the seventh day: He is blessing the earth; (6) God shows Adam the tree of good and evil; (7) Adam and Eve eating of the fruit of the tree; (8) Adam and Eve hide themselves.

North arcade. (1) The Expulsion. Remark the door of Paradise — yellow, with black foliated hinges; (2) Adam working a spade, Eve suckling Cain; (3) sacrifice of Cain and Abel; (4) murder of Abel; (5) God sentences Cain: Abel’s blood crying from the earth is represented by Abel buried in it up to his armpits, praying; (6) God commands Noah to build the ark: he is at work with an auger: the ark

has the figurehead of a dog; (7) Noah enters the ark at one end: at the other he receives the dove with the olive-branch: the raven is seen feeding on the dead bodies; (8) Noah prunes his vineyard: the vines are trained on a trellis in the Italian fashion.

North-east arcade. (1) The drunkenness of Noah; (2) the building of the tower of Babel: an inclined plane with pieces across is used instead of a ladder; (3) Abraham implores the three angels to stay with him: he is on one knee, and the angels are in albs with the amice; (4) Abraham waits on the angels at table: one of them has his hand on a fish; (5) destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah; (6) Lot's departure: his wife is turned into a pillar of salt; (7) Abraham leading the ass, with Isaac on its back; (8) Abraham, about to slay his son, is stayed by the angel.

East arcade. (1) Blessing of Jacob, Rebecca listening at the door; (2) blessing of Esau; (3) Rebecca sends Jacob to Padan Aram; (4) Jacob takes the top off the well to give water to Rachel's cattle: one beast is a camel; (5) Rachel brings Jacob to her father; (6) Jacob talks with the angel: two others are near; (7) the angel touches Jacob on the thigh with a stick; (8) meeting of Esau and Jacob, Leah and Rachel behind with the sheep.

South-east arcade. (1) Joseph's dream; (2) Joseph tells his dream to his father, mother, and brothers; (3) 1, Joseph seized by one of his brothers; 2, he is put into the well; 3, a kid has its throat cut over Joseph's garment; (4) 1, Joseph is sold to the seneschal of

the king of Egypt (this variation from the Biblical narrative occurs also in the magnificent Cottonian MS. known as Queen Mary's Psalter); 2, the seneschal on horseback with Joseph behind him; (5) the brothers bring back the coat; (6) the seneschal presents Joseph to Pharaoh, who gives a stick into his hand; (7) temptation of Joseph by Potiphar's wife; (8) Joseph accused.

South arcade. (1) Joseph is put in prison; (2) 1, the baker is hanged; 2, The butler offers the cup to Pharaoh; (3) Pharaoh's dream; (4) Pharaoh consults a magician (?). (5) 1, Joseph delivered from prison; 2, kneels before Pharaoh; (6) Joseph seated, presiding over the threshing of the corn: a man throws straw into the Nile. In the MS. Joseph communicates the intelligence that there is corn in Egypt by throwing straw into the river, which thus reaches his father, "com il est en soun chastel": (7) 1, arrival of the brothers; 2, one of them on his knees before Pharaoh; (8) 1, presentation of Benjamin to Joseph; (2) the cup is put into his sack.

South-west arcade. (1) The cup found in Benjamin's sack; (2) 1, the brethren on their knees before Joseph; 2, Joseph falls on Benjamin's neck; (3) Jacob and his family going into Egypt: they are on foot; (4) the brethren imploring Joseph not to take vengeance on them after Jacob's death; (5) the subject very doubtful: it possibly represents Joseph embracing his family, and assuring them of his protection; (6) Moses and the burning bush; (7) passage of the Red Sea; (8) destruction of Pharaoh and his host: armed

figures with shields (one of which is kite-shaped) and banners in a carriage.

West arcade (right of doorway). (1) Moses strikes the rock; (2) God gives the Law to Moses.

An ancient table, which stands in the chapter-house, and is apparently of the Early Dec. period, should be noticed. It has been carefully restored.

A door from the cloisters opens into the grounds of the **Episcopal Palace**, a very long, irregular, but picturesque pile of building, the chief feature of which is the gateway tower, with its staircase-turret and spirelet, at the N.E. extremity, now disused. The palace is now entered through the original dining-hall, of Late Perp. date, over which is the chapel of the same style, with some Jacobean woodwork and a very beautiful alabaster altarpiece, erected as a memorial of the late Rev. Sidney Lear. The drawing-room at the W. end is a very beautiful and well-proportioned room of the last century, hung with portraits of the bishops since the Restoration, chiefly copies. Those of Hyde, Burnet, Sherlock, Barrington, and Douglas are originals. Beneath the living apartments is a range of E.E. vaulted cellarage, now divided by cross-walls. The palace was sold by the Puritans to one Van Ling, a Dutch tailor, who did much harm, converting part into an inn, and letting out the rest into tenements. A good view of the chapter-house is obtained from the lovely garden, and a very fine one of the cathedral itself from a seat nearly opposite the gateway of the palace. The wonderful height of the tower

and spire here shows to the greatest advantage. The palace was entirely remodelled by Bp. Barrington, who made the new entrance. Before this it is described as "one of the most gloomy mansions that can be imagined."

DIMENSIONS OF THE CATHEDRAL.

	INSIDE.	Ft.	In.
Length of Nave, 229 ft. 6 in.;	Choir, 151 ft.; Lady Chapel, 68 ft. 6 in. } Total 449	0	
Choir, 151 ft.; Lady			
Chapel, 68 ft. 6 in.			
„ Principal Transept	.	203	10
„ Eastern Transept	.	143	0
Width of Nave and Choir from pillar	to pillar	}	34 3
„ Aisles from pillar to wall			
„ Principal Transept, with	Aisle	}	50 4
„ Eastern Transept, with			
„ Aisle	.	38	10
Height of Vaulting of the Nave,	Choir, and Transepts	}	18 0
„ Aisles and Lady Chapel			

OUTSIDE.

Extreme length	.	473	0
Length of Principal Transept	.	229	7
„ Eastern Transept	.	170	0
Width of West Front	.	111	4
„ Nave and Aisles	.	99	4
„ Principal Transept, with	its Aisles	}	81 4
„ Eastern Transept			
Height from pavement to top of Spire	.	404	0
„ to top of parapet wall of Nave	.	87	0
„ „ Aisles	.	44	0
„ „ Roof	.	115	0
„ „ West Front	.	130	0

The admeasurement round the exterior is 880 yards, or half a mile.

DIMENSIONS OF THE CHAPTER-HOUSE.

Out to out of the walls, diameter	.	78 ft.
In the clear withinside	.	58 "
Height of the vaulted ceiling	.	52 "

Several of the houses that surround the Close are of architectural or historical interest. That to the N. of St. Anne's Gate was the residence of James, or "Hermes," Harris, who used to give concerts and private theatricals in the chapel over the gate. The house to the S. of the gate

was once occupied by Fielding, the novelist, who wrote a large portion of his "Tom Jones" in a mansion at the foot of Milford Hill. The residentiary house formerly tenanted by Archdeacon Coxe, and afterwards by Canon Bowles, is a gabled building to the N.E. of the Close, with some remains of a hall and an E.E. chapel. Another residentiary house, at the N.W. corner, also preserves some portion of its chapel and of a hall with a good roof, which may be seen in the attics.

The **Deanery** is an irregular pile of building, containing ancient portions, opposite the W. front. The **King's House**, a very picturesque gabled mansion, originally built at the end of the 14th century, the occasional residence of royalty when journeying to the west, in which Richard III. is said to have sojourned at the time of Buckingham's execution, is now a training college for schoolmistresses. The **King's Wardrobe**, N. of deanery, is a gabled house of great beauty, probably of the 15th century, but containing much earlier portions. The **Leden Hall**, the *Aula Plumbea* of old documents, was built by Elias de Derham, and made over to the bishop and cathedral body on the terms of providing food for one hundred poor persons on the day of his obit.

Near the N. entrance into the Close from High Street l. is the **Matrons' College**, a long, low, red-brick building in the fashion of the time, which was founded and endowed by Seth Ward, Bishop of Sarum, in 1682, for

the maintenance of 10 widows of clergymen of the dioceses of Salisbury and Exeter.

The **parish churches** of Salisbury are not very remarkable.

St. Thomas of Canterbury, founded by Bp. Bingham 1240, rebuilt in the 15th century, and restored with new woodwork by Street, 1868, in the centre of the city, close to the market-place, is a very good specimen of a rich Perp. town church, with light arcades, very wide aisles, roofs of carved timber, and panelling over the nave arches, of which the clerestory windows are merely pierced portions. The S. aisle was the chantry of W. Swayne, whose name and arms appear on its ceiling. That of the N. aisle was repaired by William Ludlow, butler to Henry IV., V., VI., to whom is ascribed an altar-tomb in the chancel. The chancel is nearly as long as the nave, and has wide side-aisles and a clerestory. It is well fitted with oak seats and light par-closes and a stone reredos, with a relief of the Crucifixion. The former classical reredos and beautiful iron gates are preserved at the end of the S. aisle. The organ is that given to the cathedral by George III. as a "Berkshire gentleman." In the chancel are monuments to the Eyres of New House, and over the chancel arch is a restored painting of the Doom. On the exterior wall, near the W. door, there is a rude bas-relief representing the reconciliation of Jacob and Esau, flanked by the Sacrifice of Abraham and Jacob's Vision, carved by *Humphrey Beckwith*, a self-taught sculptor

of this city (d. 1671), as a monument to himself. The tower projects to the S. of the S. aisle, and contains a peal of bells transferred from the campanile of the cathedral destroyed by Wyatt. On its S. front are mutilated figures in niches of the Blessed Virgin and Child and St. Thomas of Canterbury. In the vestry is preserved a fine *antependium*.

St. Edmund's, at the N.E. extremity of the city, was originally a collegiate church founded for secular canons by Bp. de la Wyle in 1268, and dedicated to the recently canonized Edmund Rich, Archbishop of Canterbury, who had been treasurer of Salisbury. In 1653 the central tower fell, and so completely crushed the transept and nave that it was found necessary to take them down. The choir was retained as sufficient for the wants of the parish, and forms the nave of the existing church, to which a chancel has been added, from Scott's designs, replacing one of debased character. The whole church has been exceedingly well restored, and now, with light and elegant arcades, very broad aisles, and spacious and unencumbered area, is a model of a well-arranged town church. The painted glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell is good. The fall of the tower is commemorated by a tablet with a curious inscription above the W. door.

St. Edmund's Church is historically interesting from its connection with one of Abp. Laud's most notorious acts of arbitrary power. One Sherfield, then Recorder of the city, being offended

with the pictures in some of the painted windows of the church, especially one of the Creation, in which the Deity was represented as an old man, broke them with his staff. For this act of Protestant vandalism he was proceeded against in the Star Chamber, 1632-3, and sentenced to be deprived of his office (this was not carried into effect), to pay £1000 to the King (afterwards lowered to £500), and to make a public acknowledgment of his offence in the church.

St. Edmund's Schools form a picturesque group of buildings W. of the churchyard, which is overshadowed with avenues of limes. The chief schoolroom has a fine chimney-piece and wooden roof removed from an old hall on the site of the new market-house.

To the E. of the church is **St. Edmund's College**, a fine red-brick mansion of Queen Anne's style, adorned with leaden busts and stone dressings. It stands on the site of the residence of the college of secular priests attached to the church. In the grounds adjoining is preserved the cathedral porch, removed by Wyatt from the front of the N. transept. The spire and pinnacles are modern. The old fosse of the city crossed the site of the pleasure-ground, and in levelling it (1771) nearly 30 skeletons and rusty weapons were found. This is supposed to have been the scene of the fierce struggle in which Old Sarum was captured by the Saxons under Cynric, A.D. 552, and commemorated by an urn and Latin inscription.

St. Martin's (restored 1886), at the E. extremity of the city, removed, according to Leland, from the meadows near Harnham on account of "the moystness of the ground often overflowen," has a nave with gabled aisles, of equal height, and large Perp. windows. There are a tower and a spire at the W. end of the S. aisle. The chancel has some lancet windows, and there are a Norm. font and a brass eagle.

The **Roman Catholic Church**, dedicated to *St. Osmund*, was erected from the designs of the elder Pugin.

Harnham and **Fisherton**, though generally considered as suburbs of Salisbury, are much more ancient than the city itself. "Harnham was a pretty village ere Salisbury was builded," writes a chronicler; and Fisherton is mentioned in Domesday Book as *Fiscartone*, held in the time of Edward the Confessor by Godric.

The old church of *Fisherton* has been pulled down, and a new church erected not far from the railway termini, in the style of the close of the 13th century.

The **church of East Harnham**, on the hill beyond the limits of the city S., was erected 1854 by Mr. Wyatt as a memorial to the late Dean Lear. It is a small but very beautiful structure in the Dec. style, with porch and bell-turret, and, in the interior, some good carving and painted glass.

West Harnham Church (restored 1872) contains a good Norm. N. door, an E.E. chancel arch, an early font, and a singular squint in the chantry. The old

part of Harnham Mill, temp. Henry VII. or VIII., is very curious.

St. Nicholas' Hospital forms a very picturesque and interesting pile of building between the S. wall of the Close and Harnham Bridge. It was founded under the auspices of Bp. Poore, 1227, by Ela, the widow of William Longespée, Earl of Salisbury, for poor men and women. The buildings form 3 sides of a quadrangle: on the N. are the apartments for the brothers and sisters, 12 in number, *showing much original work; the domestic offices to the E.; and the chapel and chaplain's apartments to the S. The chaplain's lodgings are formed out of the W. end of the original church. The W. gable shows 2 lancets and a quatrefoiled circle. The E. gable has also 2 lancets and an octofoil over. The whole is pure E.E., and has been well restored by Mr. Butterfield.

Harnham Bridge was built over the Nadder by Bp. Bingham, 1244. The central pier, built on an islet, supports the remains of an E.E. chapel of St. John the Baptist, now incorporated with a dwelling-house, and divided into 3 stories. The E. end still shows 3 lancets, and 4 may be traced on each side, and a piscina basin within. The chaplain's dormitory is on the opposite side of the bridge.

The **market-place** is a large open square near the centre of the city. This was the scene of the execution of the Duke of Buckingham, 1483, described above (p. 222). At the S.E. corner stands the **Council House**, a heavy clas-

sical building, erected 1788-94, from designs by Sir Robert Taylor, by Jacob, Earl of Radnor, Recorder of the city. The *Council Room*, 75 ft. by 24 ft., contains the following portraits: Charles I. and II.; Queen Anne, by *Dahl*; the Earl of Radnor, founder of the building; and the late William Hussey, Esq., M.P. (bearing in his hand the report of the Committee of the House of Commons which resolved that "the influence of the Crown had increased, was increasing, and ought to be diminished"), by *Hoppner*. The *Grand Jury Room* also contains some good original portraits of various benefactors to the city, viz., King James I.; John, Duke of Somerset; Bp. Seth Ward; Sir Robert Hyde, Chief Justice of England; Sir Samuel Eyre, Justice of the King's Bench; Sir Thomas White, founder of St. John's College in Oxford; Chiffinch, Master of the Wardrobe to King Charles II.; Bp. Douglas; and Bp. Fisher.

In front of the Council Chamber, on a pedestal of polished Cornish granite, is a bronze *statue*, by Baron Marochetti, of the late Lord Herbert of Lea, who as Mr. Sidney Herbert for many years represented the southern division of Wiltshire in Parliament.

The *statue* of the late Mr. Fawcett is in Queen Street, nearly opposite to the house where he was born.

The **County Hall** is a building in the Queen Anne style, erected in 1889 at the corner of Endless Street and Chipper Lane.

The **Corn Exchange**, erected by a joint stock company, was opened May 24th, 1859. It is connected by a branch line with the L. & S.W. Rly. The façade consists of 3 arches, corresponding to the 3 aisles of the building, divided by rusticated Tuscan piers.

Leaving the market-place by a narrow passage at the S.W. corner, we come to the **Poultry Cross**, of which mention is made in the records of the chapter in 1365, where poultry, fruit, vegetables, etc., are sold. It consists of 6 arches between as many massive buttress piers, forming an open hexagon. In the centre is a pillar, square at the bottom, but towards the top of 6 sides, round which are clustered demi-angels holding blank shields, said to have once borne inscriptions. A square pillar with sun-dials has been appropriately replaced by a canopy surmounted with the cross.

Salisbury still contains many interesting remains of mediæval architecture, though the number is diminishing every year with the march of modern improvement.

One of the earliest and best specimens is to be seen in a house with carved gables, adjoining the Poultry Cross, now occupied by a watchmaker.

The finest example of mediæval domestic architecture existing in the city is ***the Hall of John Halle**, with a new front recently added, now the showroom of Mr. Watson, china merchant, on the Canal. This noble banquetting-room was built (c. 1470) by

John Halle, an eminent wool-stapler, who flourished in the reigns of Henry VI. and Edward IV. It is open to the lofty roof, which is of dark oak or chestnut, the compartments formed by the intersection of the timbers ornamented with white fans of plaster, beautifully contrasting with the dark wood. The S. end of the hall is occupied by a large oak screen or cabinet, the carving and figures of which are extremely elaborate and curious. Above it is a painting by the late A. W. Pugin, who gratuitously began and finished it at once, in 6 hours. In the S.E. corner is a low pointed door, formerly the only entrance into the apartment. On the opposite side is the massive stone fireplace. High up on the walls are busts of angels holding shields, on which are painted arms and the merchant's mark; lower down hang some fine stately portraits. A brilliant series of armorial bearings runs through the lofty mullioned windows, which are glazed with stained glass.

The **George Inn**, now a boot-shop, stands in the High Street at the end of the Canal. A passage under a carved gateway conducts to a court, round which ran one of those covered galleries often seen in the courtyards of old inns, which has now entirely disappeared. These premises are mentioned as far back as the year 1406, in the city Domesday or Register, as the "George Inn." It was visited by Pepys in 1668, who writes, "Came to the George Inne, where lay in a silk bed, and very good diet." But he adds that the reckoning was so exorbit-

ant, particularly the charge for horse-hire, and 7s. 6d. for bread and beer, that he was "mad," and resolved to trouble the mistress about it, and get something for the poor. A large part of this interesting old house has been pulled down, and the whole will probably be soon destroyed.

Near Crane Bridge, **Crane House**, early in the 15th century; was purchased in 1881, and restored as a "Diocesan Church-house." This was formerly called Audley House, and belonged to Mervin, Lord Audley, who suffered death on Tower Hill for infamous crimes in 1631. His property was forfeited, and his house in Crane Street escheated to the Bishop as lord of the manor, by whom it was presented to the city as a workhouse and house of correction.

In St. John's Street, below the White Hart, is a house which bears the name of the **King's Arms**, which after the battle of Worcester, while Charles II. lay concealed at *Heale House*, was the secret rendezvous of the Royalists, where Lord Wilmot and Henry Peters, a faithful servant of Colonel Wyndham, of Trent, found a secure asylum, and concerted measures for effecting the King's escape to the coast.

In St. Ann Street is the **Joiners' Hall**. The front is all that now remains, the inside having been completely modernized, and fitted up as 2 dwellings. The windows still contain some stained glass, and rest on brackets of grotesque figures. Below runs a frieze, on which are carved roses and

griffins with most voluminous tails, said to be the handiwork of Humphrey Beckwith. Some of the oak carvings of the Hall are still in the possession of the proprietor.

The **Tailors' Hall**, now a grocer's store, is situated at the end of a narrow passage leading out of Milford Street. The Giant and Hob-nob, relics of the midsummer shows and city pageants, now in the Museum, were formerly kept in this deserted hall. Round the walls are small shields, inscribed with the initials of the members, and the date of their admission. The arms of the company are over the fireplace, and a mutilated St. Christopher, in stained glass, in one of the windows. There are portraits of Charles I. and his queen. The confraternity of tailors is the only one of the ancient chartered companies now existing in Salisbury.

In *New Street*, at the last house, called **Mitre Corner**, being the spot where the first house of New Salisbury was built, and where Bp. Poore lived, every new prelate is invested with his robes of office, and conducted thence to the cathedral.

The **Salisbury and South Wilts Museum**, in St. Ann Street, is open to the public (free) daily (Fridays and Sundays excepted) during the hours of daylight, and every Wednesday evening from 6 to 9.

The collection is arranged in 3 rooms. In the *first* room is a fine series of British birds, consisting of three collections, formed by Mr. Henry Blackmore, Mr. Martin, of Weymouth, and Mr.

Marsh. It is intended to devote this room to the display of objects illustrative of the *natural history* of the neighbourhood of Salisbury. The *second* room contains the *archæological specimens*. The mediæval objects secured during the excavations made in Salisbury for drainage purposes are of great interest. These consist of pilgrims' signs, spurs, arrow-heads, daggers, swords, knives, spoons, workmen's tools, keys, rings, etc. A small but illustrative series of pottery and porcelain is shown. The *third* room contains the *geological specimens*. Especial prominence has been given to fossils derived from the local geological formations, and among these should be noticed a series of fossils from the upper chalk, exhibited by Mr. C. J. Read, and a slab of stone, obtained by that gentleman from the insect bed of the Vale of Wardour, containing a very large number of specimens of *Archæoniscus Brodiei*.

* The **Blackmore Museum** is open to the public (free) the same days and hours as the *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum*. This museum was founded by the late Mr. William Blackmore, of Liverpool and London, in 1864, and placed by him under the management of the committee of the *Salisbury and South Wilts Museum*.

The collection, which is wholly illustrative of prehistoric archæology, is arranged in four groups. (1) Remains of animals found associated with the works of prehistoric man; (2) implements of stone; (3) implements of bronze; (4) implements, weapons, and ornaments of modern savages

which serve to throw light upon the use of similar objects belonging to prehistoric times. In *Group 1* are placed the mammalian remains obtained from the local brick-earth at Fisherton, including teeth and bones of cave lion, cave hyæna, wolf, arctic fox, mammoth, rhinoceros, musk-sheep, pouched marmot, lemming, reindeer, etc. These have been named and arranged by Dr. Blackmore. *Group 2* includes the finest and the most extensive series of flint implements from the "drift" of England to be seen in any public museum. About one-fourth of the specimens have been obtained from the valley-gravels (drift) of the neighbourhood of Salisbury. These drift implements, and the objects exhibited from the bone-caves of France, belong to the *palæolithic* or old-stone period. In the *neolithic* series are stone hatchets, arrow-heads, and implements from various parts of England, Wales, Scotland, Ireland, France, Switzerland, Italy, Belgium, Denmark, and Sweden; from Algeria and the Cape of Good Hope; from the East Indies; from the West Indies; and from Canada and the United States of America. The collection from the sites of ancient lake-villages (*Pfahlbauten*) of Switzerland claims special notice, as also does the unique series of sculptured stone pipes and other objects obtained from the tumuli of the Scioto valley, Ohio, and so well known by archæologists as the "Squier and Davis" collection. *Group 3*. The bronze objects consist of swords, daggers, spear-heads, and celts. These have been selected from a very large number,

with reference to minor typical peculiarities; and as such they, and the celts in particular, form a most instructive series. Specimens are shown from England, Ireland, France, Germany, Sweden, and America. In *Group 4* are weapons, implements, and ornaments in use by the Esquimaux, the Ahts of the N.W. coast of America, the Prairie Indians, the Indians of British Guiana, the Fuegians, the Polynesians, the Melanesians, and various semi-savage tribes of the African continent.

Few collections are calculated to throw more light upon the habits of prehistoric man than that in the Blackmore Museum. The stone, bronze, and modern groups were arranged by the late Mr. Edward T. Stevens, to whose energy and labour the satisfactory completion of this fine collection must be in a great measure attributed. Catalogues may be obtained at the Museum.

Salisbury can boast of some distinguished natives and residents.

Horman, the Provost of Eton, author of the "Vulgaria" (d. 1535; b. in New Street); *Coryate*, the author of the "Crudities," afterwards rector of Odcombe (d. 1606); *Sir Toby Matthew*, the Jesuit politician employed by James I. to negotiate the Spanish match (d. 1653); *Philip Massinger*, the dramatist (b. 1584); *Thomas Chiffinch*, the infamous agent of the intrigues of Charles II. (b. 1600); and *James Harris*, the philologist, known, from his celebrated work, as "*Hermes Harris*" (b. 1709), were natives of the city. *William Lawes*, the musician, the almost equally

SALISBURY & NEIGHBOURHOOD



gifted brother of *Henry Lawes* (b. at Dinton) (to whom we are indebted for the suggestion of Milton's "Comus," and the author of the dedicatory epistle to it), was born in the Close, 1603. Their father, Thomas Lawes, was a vicar choral of the cathedral, of which Matthew Wise (d. 1687), the ecclesiastical composer, was organist. *Chubb*, "*the Deist*," author of the "Sufficiency of Reason in Religion," designated by Pope, in writing to Gay, as "a wonderful phenomenon of Wiltshire," was born at East Harnham, 1679, apprenticed to a glovemaking, and became the leading spirit of a debating club. He was the original of the "Square" of Fielding's "Tom Jones," while "Thwackum" was drawn from Hele, master of the Close Grammar School. Amongst later natives the name of the Rt. Hon. H. Fawcett must not be omitted. *Joseph Addison*, born at Milston, near Amesbury, was educated in the grammar school here, and *Sir Charles Lyell*, the geologist, at the academy of Dr. Radcliffe.

To these we may not improperly add—

John of Salisbury, born at Old Sarum, 1110, who, according to Leland, combined in himself "omnem scientiarum orbem," described by Bale as "a good Latinist, Grecian, mathematician, musician, philosopher, divine, and what not," who died Bishop of Chartres, 1182, author of "Polycraticon," dedicated to Becket.

EXCURSIONS FROM SALISBURY.

(a) To Old Sarum and Stonehenge.

* * **STONEHENGE** will probably be the first object selected by the tourist for a visit. This wonderful and mysterious monument of antiquity lies about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of Amesbury, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Salisbury. The best plan is to take a carriage, going by *Old Sarum*, and returning by *Lake House* and *Heale House*, and the *Valley of the Avon*.

2 m. rt. is **OLD SARUM**, a huge conical knoll, presenting in the open country a bold outline that instantly attracts the stranger's eye. It is now a bare hill encircled with entrenchments, with a central mound peering above them; but for centuries this spot was crowded with buildings, religious, military, and domestic, and was one of the most important cities in our island. Some say (but it is doubtful) that the ancient British name was *Caer Sarflog*, the "City of the Service Tree"; its Roman name was *Sorbiadunum*, the Saxon *Sarobyrig*. The face of the hill is quite smooth and very steep. The summit is fenced by a mighty earthen rampart and ditch, protected by a lower raised bank, outside of it, the height from the top of the one to the bottom of the other being 106 ft. The surface of the hill within this vallum is an elongated circular area of $27\frac{1}{4}$ acres. In the centre of this area is a second circular earthwork and ditch, 100 ft. in height; and within these stood the citadel. On the top of the earthwork surrounding

the citadel was a very strong wall, 12 ft. thick, of flint embedded in rubble, and coated with square stones, of which some portion remains. To the great outer earthwork there were 2 entrances, one (guarded by a hornwork still remaining) on the western, another (the postern) on the eastern side. The site of the citadel is now overgrown with briars and brushwood; the rest of the area is partly in a state of nature, partly cultivated.

“Celt and Roman alike had seen the military value of the height from which the eye sweeps nowadays over the grassy meadows of the Avon to the arrowy spire of Salisbury; and, admirable as the position was in itself, it had been strengthened at a vast cost of labour. The camp on the summit of the knoll was girt in by a trench hewn so deeply in the chalk that from the inner side of it the white face of the rampart rose 100 ft. high, while strong outworks protected the approaches to the fortress from the W. and from the E.”

—*J. R. Green*. Though there may have been a British stronghold here, still it is the opinion of good antiquaries that there is now no British work to be seen; that when the Romans took possession of the hill they defended it by a simple escarpment, without any ditch, but with outworks at the entrances; and that the ditch now on the face of the scarp, as well as the central citadel and its defences, were added by the Saxons, perhaps by Alfred, who, in his war with the Danes, certainly paid great attention to strengthening the position. Several Roman roads radiated from the city: to Silchester, Winchester, Dorchester, Uphill on the Bristol Channel, and others, it is believed, to Bath and Marlborough. Cynric

the Saxon won it by a victory over the Britons in 552. In 960 Edgar held his council here. In 1003 Sweyn and the Danes are said to have stormed it. In the time of the Confessor a monastery of nuns was established. It was not till 1072 that it became the seat of a bishop. The kingdom of Wessex originally formed one diocese, the see being fixed 634 at Dorchester (Oxon) and St. Birinus being the first bishop. In 683, St. Hædde being bishop, the see was removed to Winchester. In 705 the diocese was divided, a new see for the district E. of Selwood being fixed at Sherborne, whose first bishop was St. Ealdhelm. A further subdivision took place in 909, a new see for Berks and Wilts being created at Ramsbury, which was reunited to Sherborne by Bp. Herman, 1045, who in 1072 transferred the see to Old Sarum.

In 1070 William the Conqueror, as the closing act of his conquest, reviewed his victorious army on the plain below Old Sarum, where now the modern city stands, rewarding its leaders with lands and gifts. The castellanship of Sarum he gave to his kinsman, Osmund, who, afterwards taking Holy Orders, succeeded Herman in the see. In 1086 the King assembled here, the year before his death, all the chief landowners of the realm to swear that, “whose men soever they were, they would be faithful to him against all other men,” by which “England was made for ever after an undivided kingdom.”—*E. A. F.* Bp. Osmund finished his new cathedral in 1092, and established the new ritual “*ad usum Sarum*.” The foundations of the cathedral were visible in the very dry summer of 1834. It was in form a plain cross, 270 ft. long by 70 wide, the transept of the same width, and 150 ft. long. Its plan is remarkable for having a

square instead of an apsidal E. end, and a Galilee, or Atrium, at the W. end. Within a few days of its consecration a thunderstorm seriously injured the roof and walls. Robert of Gloucester, alluding to the fifth year of the reign of William II., sings—

“So gret lytnynge was the vyfte yer, so
that al to noghte
The rof of the chyrch of Salesbury it
broute,
Rygt even the vyfte day that he
y-halwed was.”

Henry I.'s celebrated chancellor, Bp. Roger, improved both the church and fortifications. In the reign of Stephen the place began to decline. The soldiers and priests cooped up in so small a space could not agree. The situation was cold and windy, and water was scarce. Bp. Richard Poore is said to have been directed in a vision to build upon the Maer (or boundary) field, called in some accounts the Miry-field or the Merrifield, where a new church (the present one) was commenced; the citizens migrated; the great travelling road was diverted to the new site, and the days of Old Sarum were numbered. A charter granted to the new town, 2 Henry III., sealed its fate. Very little, however, is known about the real history of the transference of the people from the one place to the other. There are some reasons for believing that a new town had been growing up by degrees long before the cathedral was built at New Sarum. Being only 1600 ft. in diameter, Old Sarum must have afforded small space for a cathedral, bishop's palace, a garrison, streets, and houses. The cathedral had been taken down in 1331 (Edward III.), and its materials used in building the new spire, Close walls, etc. Leland (temp. Henry VIII.) reports some portions of the buildings as visible in his time, but says,

“There is not one house, neither within or without Old Saresbyri, inhabited. Much notable ruinus building of the castell yet ther remainith. The diche that envirined the old town was a very deepe and strong thyng.” The walls remained till 1608, and served as a quarry. Fisherton Old County Jail (*inter alia*) was built out of them. The great hollow enclosure of Old Sarum, girt by its frowning earthwork (not unlike the crater of a volcano), is certainly a solemn and desolate place. Pepys passing by and not knowing what it was, desired to examine it. “I saw a great fortification,” he says, “and there light and to it and in it, and find it prodigious, so as to frighten one to be in it all alone at that time of night.” A subterranean passage was discovered in 1795. The foundations of towers may be traced, and many Roman coins have been met with. Old Salisbury has given a title to the families of D'Eureux or Devereux, Longespée, Montacute, Nevill, Plantagenet, and the Cecil family, who still enjoy it. The ground ceased to be Crown property in 1447, when it was granted to the Lords Stourton; on forfeiture by them, it was granted by James I. to the Cecils. They sold it to Governor Pitt, and the Earl of Chatham sold it to the Earl of Caledon. It was subsequently purchased by the Ecclesiastical Commission. Its dignity as the resort of kings and seat of councils ceased with the growth of the younger city; but it long retained one relic of its former greatness, the right of returning two members to Parliament, which was duly exercised until the passing of the Reform Bill, although for many a year not a single house had existed. The elections were held at the foot of the hill, on *Election Acre*, where a tent was pitched beneath the branches of an elm-

tree, which is still pointed out as occupying the site of the last remaining house.

[The upper road from Old Sarum to Amesbury traverses the bleak, unsheltered downs of Salisbury Plain. About 1 m. short of Salisbury, beyond the intersection of a cross-road from Wilton, a peculiar hollow may be noticed to the rt., between a copse-wood and the road. It was one of the five places or "steads" in England in which tournaments were held according to a charter of Richard I. An imaginary line from Old Sarum to Wilton would intersect the actual spot. 8 m. brings the traveller to the little town of

★ **Amesbury**, or Ambresbury (Pop. 981), prettily situated in a fertile bottom embosomed in woods, in the valley of the Upper Avon.

It is a place of the highest antiquity, and is reasonably supposed to derive its name in the A.-S. form *Ambres-burh* (answering to the Welsh *Caer Emrys*) from Aurelius Ambrosius, the British king of the 6th century, identified by Dr. Guest with Natan-leod, *i.e.*, "the Prince of the Sanctuary," this sanctuary being, according to the same authority, the great monastery which the Welsh Triads inform us was established here in the very earliest times of Christianity. "The choir or sanctuary of Ambrosius was probably *the* monastery of Britain, the centre from which flowed the blessings of Christianity and civilization."—*Guest*. An eponymic Abbot Ambrius appears in the not very trustworthy chronicle of Geoffrey of Monmouth. Amesbury is of much interest in legendary history as the place of Queen Guinevere's penitential retirement.

"Queen Guinevere had fled the court
and sat
There in the holy house at Almesbury
Weeping, none with her save a little
maid,
A novice."

Tennyson.

It was from here, according to tradition, that Sir Lancelot brought her body for burial to Glastonbury, "with a hundred torches ever burning about the corpse of the Queen." A Benedictine nunnery was founded here (c. 980) by Queen Elfrida to expiate the murder of her stepson Edward at Corfe. In 1177 Henry II. expelled the nuns for dissolute living, and gave it to the great convent of Fontevrault, in Anjou, whence it received a prioress and 24 nuns. It increased in splendour and in royal favour, and became a favourite retreat of ladies of royal or noble birth. Eleanor of Brittany, daughter of Geoffrey Plantagenet and sister of Prince Arthur, became a nun here, where she was buried, after her death at St. James's Priory, Bristol. Mary, the 6th daughter of Edward I., in company with 13 ladies of noble birth, including her younger sister Leonora, took the veil here in 1285; and here in 1292 died Eleanor, queen of Henry III., having taken the veil here in 1287, fifteen years after her husband's death. Katharine of Aragon lodged within its walls on her first arrival in England, in 1501. Florence Bormewe, the last abbess but one, resisted the attempts of Cromwell's infamous emissaries to induce her to surrender her monastery into the King's hands. "Albeit we have used as many ways with her as our poor wits could attain, yet in the end we could not by any persuasion bring her to any conformity, but at all times she resteth and so remaineth in these terms: 'If the King's highness command me to go from this house, I will gladly go, though I beg my bread, and as for

pension, I care for none.'” One is hardly sorry to learn that the death of the abbess almost immediately afterwards saved her from further humiliation.

After the dissolution the monastery was granted to the Earl of Hertford, afterwards Protector Somerset, who made a residence out of the old buildings, and the Protector's son, Edward, Earl of Hertford, lived here. His 2nd wife was Frances, daughter of Lord Howard of Bindon, of whom Sir George Rodney, of Rodney Stoke, was so enamoured that on her marriage he came to Amesbury, wrote a copy of verses to the Countess in his own blood, and then fell on his sword. The property passed by marriage, sale, and inheritance respectively to the families of Ailesbury, Boyle, and Queensberry. William, fourth Duke of Queensberry, d. 1810, and in 1824 his estate was bought by Sir Edmund Antrobus. Whilst the residence of the Duke of Queensberry and his charming duchess—Prior's

“Kitty, beautiful and young,
And wild as colt untamed”—

it was the retreat of *Gay*, who here composed the “*Beggar's Opera*.” A curious stone room, built into a bank overlooking the Avon in the grounds so as to form a kind of artificial cavern, is said to have been the poet's study. The Duchess's sons died prematurely—Henry, the eldest, from the accidental discharge of his pistol as he was riding before the coach containing his father and brother, near Bawtry; Charles, the second son, escaped from the earthquake at Lisbon, having spent from 9 till 2 o'clock clambering over the ruins, but died the next year.

The *house* was built from Inigo Jones's, or more probably

[*Wills and Dorset.*]

his son-in-law Webb's, designs, but has been since much altered. “It is interesting,” writes Mr. Fergusson, “as one of the earliest examples of the type on which nine-tenths of the seats of English gentry were afterwards erected.” The Avon flows through the beautiful grounds, and is famous as a trout stream.

Amesbury was famous in Aubrey's time for the best tobacco-pipes in England, marked with a gauntlet, the name of the maker; many are to be seen in the Museum at Salisbury. The *Ch.*, as at Edington, Arundel, and frequently elsewhere, served both for the parish and the abbey, the monastic body occupying the choir and the parish the nave. It is a large cruciform edifice, of E.E. character, 128 ft. long, with a low square central tower. There are some rich Dec. windows in the chancel. Attached to the N. transept is a curious two-storied building consisting of a chapel, with piscina below and a priest's room above. The Avon sweeps round the base of the so-called

Vespasian's Camp (a name imposed by the fanciful Stukeley, but locally known as “*the Ram-parts*”), crowning a densely wooded hill, which forms the principal feature in the view from the house. Its ancient lines of defence, enclosing 39 acres, and boldly scarped towards the W., environ the summit in the form of a scalene triangle. It is probably a British work, but Dr. Stukeley invented the name Vespasian's Camp, fancying that it might have been occupied and strengthened by the Romans when engaged in the conquest of the

Belgæ. The area of the camp, now divided by the high-road which passes Stonehenge, and intersected by drives, was entered through two openings, one on the N. and the other on the S.; and the former, which is still used as a roadway, commands a beautiful view over the subjacent vale, and of the church.

There are some little villages with their churches near Amesbury worthy of a visit. They lie mostly on the banks of the Avon, which the traveller may explore by an excellent road to Pewsey, a distance of 14 m. (see Rte. 5, pp. 170-174).

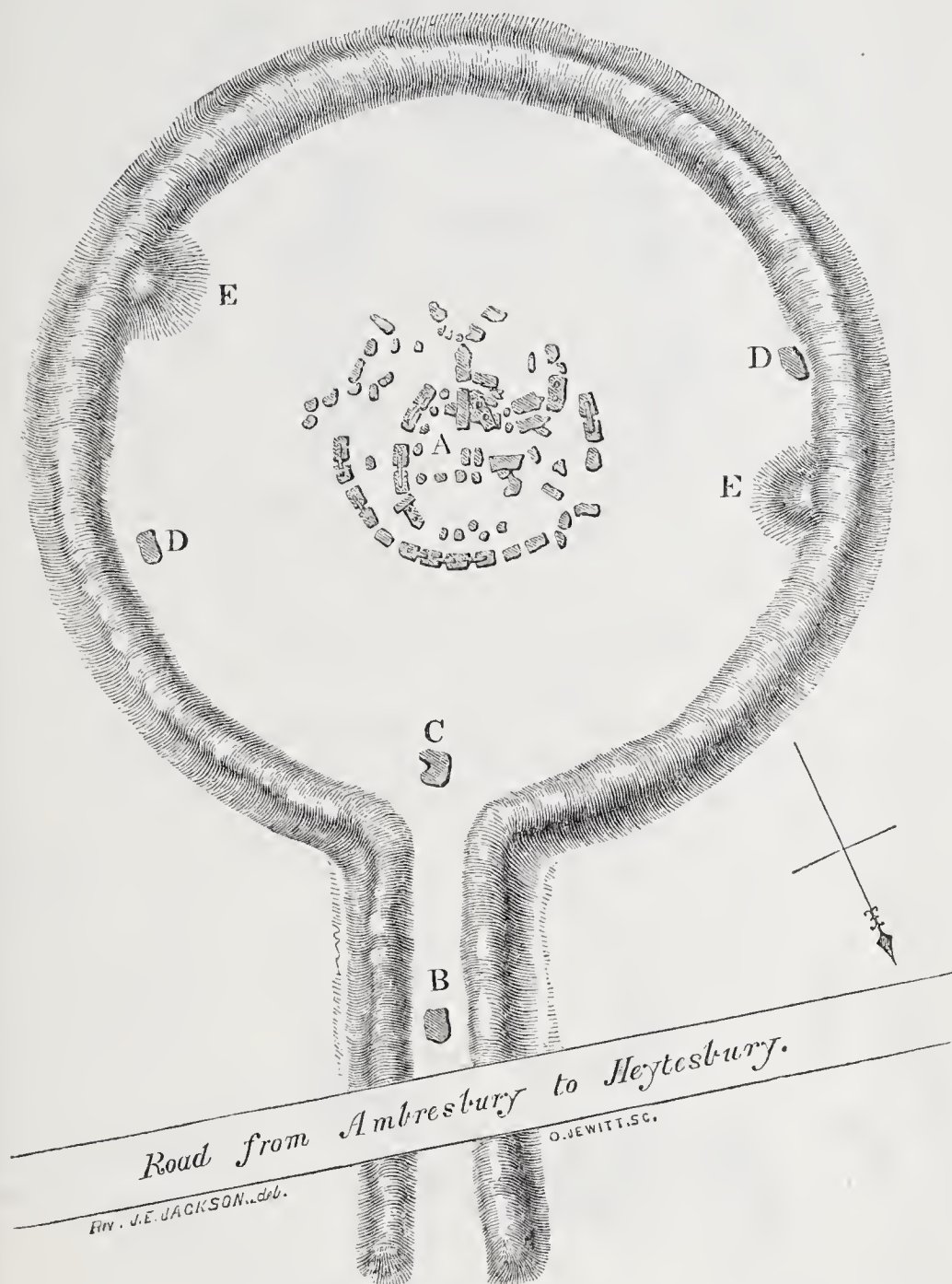
***STONEHENGE** is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. from Amesbury, in an angle formed by the high-road, where it branches rt. to Heytesbury, l. to the late Deptford Inn. It is situated in the midst of *Salisbury Plain*, an undulating tract of chalk country, which has been aptly likened to the surface of the ocean when heaving after a storm—the long rolling swell, “in fluctuation fixed.” Until a comparatively recent period this district was entirely in a state of nature. It was coated with a fine turf, which afforded pasture to sheep, the soil in many places but skin-deep, and the whole region bare of trees. But the natural features of this country are now much changed. The genius of the Plain is retiring before cultivation, which has for some time been creeping over the hills, and is indeed now advanced to the very precincts of Stonehenge, within a gunshot of which are farm-buildings and cottages neatly slated and white-washed. Stonehenge, as seen

from a distance, has generally disappointed. Its vastness is lost in the expanse of open country. It is only on the spot, and especially by moonlight—when the traveller beholds around him the ponderous masses, some erect, supporting imposts, some leaning—that its true proportions can be appreciated.

It has been a constant reproach, and indeed still is, that this remarkable monument is unknown to many to whom far-distant objects on the Continent are quite familiar. Langtoft in his “Chronicle” says, “A wander wit of Wiltshire rambling to Rome to gaze at antiquities and there skrewing himself into the company of antiquarians, they entreated him to illustrate unto them that famous monument in his country called Stonage. His answer was that he had never seen, scarce ever heard of it, whereupon they kicked him out of doors, and bad him goe home and see Stonage. And I wish that all such Esopicall cocks as slight these admired stones, and scrape for barley cornes of vanity out of foreigne dung hills, might be handled, or rather footed, as he was.” Those who take the trouble to visit them will find that Pepys was right when he wrote that they were “as prodigious as any tales I ever heard of them, and worth going this journey to see.”

Stonehenge when perfect, so far as we can now judge, consisted of two circles and two ellipses of upright stones, concentric, and environed by a bank and ditch, and, outside this boundary, of a single upright stone and a hippodrome or *cursus*. The entrance to the great cluster of circles faced the

STONEHENGE. Plate I.—General Plan.



- A. Stone Circles (see Plate II.), in centre of circular earthen bank, and ditch.
- B. Standing Stone, called "The Friar's Heel."
- C. Large fallen stone.
- D D. Two smaller stones on margin of earthen bank.
- E E. Barrows, which, being partly absorbed in the earthen bank, appear to have been on the spot when the bank was made.



1. GROUND PLAN: as presumed to have been originally.

A. Small Trilithon of Syenite. That it *stood* here is only conjecture. It now lies as marked A below.



2. GROUND PLAN. Present state.

N.E.; and the road to it, *Via Sacra* or *Avenue*, is still to be traced by banks of earth. The traveller approaching Stonehenge by this course (which commands a grand outline of the ruin when the sun is low in the west) first reaches the isolated stone called **Friar's Heel** (B), a block 16 ft. 9 in. long, and now in a leaning position. This stone takes its name from a legend of Salisbury Plain, viz., that whilst the evil spirit was busy erecting the great structure, he made the observation that no one would ever know how it was done. This was overheard by a friar who happened to be lurking about to watch the operation, and who incautiously replied in the Wiltshire dialect, "That's more than thee can tell," and fled for his life, whereupon the other caught up an odd stone, flung it after the fugitive, and hit him fortunately only on the heel. This stone is also called the "Pointer," because, from the middle of the so-called altar stone, the sun is seen at the summer solstice to rise immediately above it.

From the Friar's Heel it is about 66 yards to the low circular earthen boundary—a bank and ditch—now very slightly marked upon the turf, enclosing the area within which Stonehenge stands. Just within the entrance of this earthen ring lies a large prostrate block (C), ridiculously misnamed the **Slaughtering Stone**, as it evidently once stood upright. On the margin of the earthen ring, one 55 yards on the l., the other about 95 yards on the rt., of the entrance, are 2 smaller and unhewn stones (D). Some have

thought that there may once have been a circular row of stones all round the earthen ring (as at Avebury). Of this there is no proof, and what two solitary stones could have been put there for must be left to conjecture.

Upon the inner side of the margin of the boundary ring will be observed, one on the S. side, the other on the N., the traces of two low tumuli very slightly raised above the ground, and imperfectly ditched round (E). The one on the N. side, if closely looked at, will be found to abut upon the boundary ring in such a manner as to prove that the tumulus (which has been opened, and was found to contain the burned bones of an interment) was on the spot before the earthen ring.

From the Friar's Heel to the first or outer circle of the great structure is about 38 yards.

The **outer circle** consisted of 30 upright stones fixed in the ground at intervals of $3\frac{1}{2}$ ft., connected at the top by a continuous line of 30 imposts forming a corona, or ring of stone, at a height of 16 ft. above the ground. These blocks were all squared and rough-hewn, and cleverly joined together. The uprights were cut with knobs or tenons, which fitted into mortise-holes hewn in the under-sides of the horizontal stones. About 9 ft. within this imposing peristyle was the **inner circle**, which resembled one of the simple stone monuments common in Wales and Cornwall, being a circle of unhewn syenite obelisks, each about 6 ft. in height, and apparently 36 or 40 in number. Within this, again, was the **great**

ellipse, formed of 5, or, as some think, 7 trilithons, or triplets of stones, all certainly hewn, each group consisting of two blocks placed upright and one crosswise, like the frame of a doorway. These imposing structures rose progressively in height from N.E. to S.W., and the loftiest and largest attained an elevation of 25 ft. Lastly, within the trilithons was the **inner ellipse**, consisting of 19 obelisks of syenite, similar in character to those of the inner circle. Within the inner ellipse was the so-called **altar stone**. Such seems to have been the original form of Stonehenge. The ruin of to-day presents a very different appearance. It is little more than a confused pile of enormous stones, which, according to the saying, cannot be counted twice alike. Yet enough remains to excite our wonder and admiration. Of the outer circle, or peristyle, 16 uprights and 6 imposts retain their original position; of the inner circle, the stones of which are unfortunately of a size very convenient for the spoiler, 7 only stand upright; of the great ellipse, there are still 2 perfect trilithons, and 2 single uprights, part of a trilithon overturned in 1620 by the Duke of Buckingham digging for treasure, one in a leaning position, a striking and interesting object with its boldly cut tenon at top; another trilithon fell, January 3rd, 1797, on a rapid thaw succeeding a severe frost; of the inner ellipse there are 6 blocks in their places, and in the centre remains the so-called altar stone.

The outer circle is all of native Wiltshire stone, viz., the *Sarsen* or *Grey-wether*, a hard siliceous

sandstone, certainly brought to this spot from the Marlborough Downs. The 5 great trilithons are of the same kind of stone. The small obeliscal stones of the inner circle and the inmost ellipse are all of primary igneous rock called syenite, except 3 of greenstone and 1 of siliceous schist. These smaller stones must have been brought from a great distance, as this formation is not found in the county of Wilts. Professor Prestwich, without asserting them to have come from that district, says that they are of the same nature as the igneous rocks of part of the Lower Silurian region of North Pembroke-shire and Carnarvonshire. The large black flat stone lying in the centre is of fine micaceous sandstone different from all the rest. Lying on the ground to the left, on entering at the N.E., is a stone (A) with two mortise-holes, one certainly used as a horizontal impost. This is also of syenite, and it has evidently been the capstone of a trilithon of smaller size than any trilithon now at Stonehenge. This proves that the number of trilithons must have been more than 5, so that we cannot positively say what their original number or arrangement may have been.

Having examined the ruin of the monument itself, the visitor should direct his attention to the neighbouring plain. He will observe the sepulchral tumuli ranged round at a distance. Within a radius of three miles there are as many as 300, while the rest of the country is comparatively free from them. The cluster ($\frac{1}{2}$ m.) to the N. is called the **Seven Barrows**, and adjoining it is the western

end of the **Cursus**. This enclosure, which Stukeley supposes to have been a Roman race-ground, is marked out by banks of earth along the gently sloping plain, E. and W., to a distance of more than a mile and a half. At one end (the E.) it is barred by a high mound, supposed to have been the seat of the principal spectators, near the other by a low bank, which would appear to have been the goal. But we have no certain knowledge of the purpose this enclosure served. At a short distance farther N. is a much smaller but similar work, likewise barred by a bank at its western end.

Before the stranger bids adieu to Stonehenge, he will probably feel desirous of information with regard to its date, origin, and use. It must, however, be confessed that they are all equally unknown to us. The depths of time transmit but a feeble light for our guidance. We will endeavour, nevertheless, to collect these rays, such as they are, into a focus, premising that the subject may prove uninteresting, and giving the reader the option of closing the book with Warton's sonnet:—

“Thou noblest monument of Albion's isle!
Whether by Merlin's aid from Scythia's
shore
To Amber's fatal plain Pendragon bore,
Huge frame of giant-hands, the mighty
pile,
To entomb his Britons slain by Hengist's
guile;
Or Druid priests, sprinkled with human
gore,
Taught 'mid thy massy maze their mystic
lore;
Or Danish chiefs, enriched with savage
spoil,
To victory's idol vast, an unhewn shrine,
Reared the rude heap; or in thy hallowed
round
Repose the kings of Brutus' genuine line;

Or here those kings in solemn state were
crowned,
Studious to trace thy wondrous origin,
We muse on many an ancient tale re-
nowned,”

and Sir Philip Sidney's lines:—

“Near Wilton sweet, huge heaps of stones
are found,
But so confused that neither any eye
Can count them just, nor reason reason try
What force them brought to so unlikely
ground.”

There are two opinions respecting the period at which the different series of stones were set up. By some it is thought that the *outer circle* and the *outer oval* existed before the smaller stones of the inner circle and inner oval were placed, by others that the smaller stones were first erected; but if any inference as to the contemporaneous date of the whole structure may be drawn from the chippings of the various kinds of stones of which it is composed being found mixed together at the bases of the stones, and in the adjacent barrows, we are led to assign *one date* to the whole.

It is possible that Hecatæus, a geographer who flourished some five hundred years before Christ, may have been alluding to Stonehenge when he says that there is a magnificent circular temple in the island of the Hyperboreans, over against Celtica; but the first author who makes unmistakable mention of Stonehenge is Henry of Huntingdon,* who wrote at the commencement of 12th century. In his “Chronicle” he speaks of it as the second wonder of England, and calls it *Stanenges*. Geoffrey of Monmouth, who wrote at the same time, declares it to have been

* “Secundum est apud Stanenges ubi lapides miræ magnitudinis in modum portarum elevati sunt, ita ut portæ portis superpositæ videantur: nec potest aliquis excogitare quâ arte, tanti lapides adeo in altum elevati sunt, vel quare ibi constructi sunt.”

a monument erected in the reign of Aurelius Ambrosius, King of Britain (c. 460), in order to commemorate the slaughter of the Britons by Hengist, and hence the etymology which has sometimes been assigned to it of "Hengist's Stones"; but the true etymological explanation of Stanhenges seems to be A.-S. *stán*, used as an adjective, and *henge*, from A.-S. *hón*, *i.e.*, *stone hanging-places*, from the groups of stones resembling a *gallows*. This was long ago suggested by Wace, the Anglo-Norman poet, who writes:—

"'Stanhengues' ont nom en Englois,
'Pieres pandues' en Francois."

The name given to it by the Saxons themselves evidently shows that it was not set up by that people, who would hardly have bestowed such a title on a work emanating from themselves, and it is almost certain that it is much anterior to the coming of the Saxons.

Giraldus Cambrensis, a contemporary of Geoffrey, tells the same tale in a somewhat modified manner: "There was in Ireland, in ancient times, a pile of stones worthy of admiration, called the Giants' Dance, because giants from the remotest parts of Africa brought them into Ireland, and in the plains of Kildare, not far from the castle of Naas, as well by force of art as strength, miraculously set them up; and similar stones, erected in a like manner, are to be seen there at this day. These stones, according to the British history, Aurelius Ambrosius, king of the Britons, procured Merlin, by supernatural means, to bring from Ireland into Britain, and, that he might leave some famous monument of so great a treason to future ages, in the same order and art as they stood formerly, set them up where the flower of the British nation fell by

the cut-throat practice of the Saxons, and where, under the pretence of peace, the ill-secured youth of the kingdom, by murderous designs, were slain."

Inigo Jones broached the theory that it was a temple erected by the Romans to the god *Cœlus*. But this has been repudiated by all archæologists, and may be pronounced baseless.

It is held by many archæologists that the large stone circles of these islands were used as *places of religious assembly* by the ancient inhabitants. In Scotland there appears to have been a general tradition that they were *places of sacrifice* in heathen times.* Their Gaelic name of *clachan* is equally applicable to a church. They have also the name of *law-stones*, and there is documentary evidence that as late as the 14th century they were used for holding *courts of justice* (see "Prehistoric Annals of Scotland," p. 113). The laws of Edgar and Canute, in the 10th and 11th centuries, show the same veneration in England for stones, which were even resorted to as *places of sanctuary*.

In most parts of France stone monuments seem to have been sedulously destroyed, but they are abundant in Brittany. In our own island they are found in all parts, from the Scilly Isles to the Orkneys, and are generally *circular* in form, and usually surrounded by an earthwork, consisting of a fosse and vallum, the vallum being on the *outside*.

The stones are often of great size, 15 ft. and upwards in height, and selected with some regard to symmetry, some having been hammer-dressed. The diameters of the stone circles vary from 60 ft. to 366, and even to 1200 ft., which is

* See Hector Boece, "History of Scotland," A.D. 1526; "Archæology," vol. i., p. 315.

the diameter of the great circle at Avebury. The more usual diameter, according to Dr. Thurnam ("Cran. Brit." c. v., p. 124), is about 100 ft., which is that of Stonehenge.

Some of the sacred circles were approached by avenues formed of parallel rows of stones, and are of considerable dimensions and rectilinear, as at Classerness, Merivale. That of Shap was of large size, and is said to be traceable for 2 m. The avenue is traceable at Avebury, and is most striking at Carnac, in Brittany, where there are from 10 to 13 rows in different avenues.

Avebury and Stonehenge, both in Wilts, are the most remarkable so-called druidical monuments in Britain. Avebury was probably in the district of the Dobuni, and is formed of *unhewn* stones. Stonehenge is different: it is formed partially of hewed and squared stones. The columnar uprights are connected with a continuous transom or architrave, and by a system of mortise and tenon joints. That Stonehenge is *more recent than Avebury* there can be little doubt. If the people who erected it were the Belgæ, the period of its erection would be about the *second century prior* to the Christian era.

Fergusson maintained that Stonehenge, Silbury Hill, and Avebury are of post-Roman date, and were probably erected during the 5th and 6th centuries, and this view has been more recently urged by Barclay; but there can be little doubt that Sir John Lubbock, representing the more generally received views of English antiquaries, is correct in assigning them all to a pre-Roman period of uncertain date.

"As regards recent explanations of these monuments, Mr. A. Evans thinks that the component parts of

stone circles such as Stonehenge—namely, the circle itself, the avenue of stones which leads up to it, imperfect at Stonehenge, though better marked at Avebury, and the central dolmen, wanting in the instance now under consideration—are all of them amplifications of the simplest sepulchral forms. The circle is an enlarged version of the ring of stones placed round the grave-mound; the dolmen represents the cyst within it; the avenue is merely the continuation of the underground gallery, which in the early barrows leads to the sepulchral chamber. The trilithons are a new feature in connection with the stone circle, but, as shown by the example of some of our later long barrows, and by a comparison with the monuments of Syria, of India, and elsewhere, are themselves only the perpetuation of a part of the sepulchral structure, the actual gateway of the subterranean chamber, which remains as a ritual survival when, owing to cremation or other causes, the galleried chamber to which it led has itself been modified away. Like the circles themselves and like the avenue, the trilithon is of sepulchral origin, and connects itself directly with the worship of departed spirits. Finally, he thinks that the original holy object within the central trilithon of Stonehenge was a sacred tree, and in this connection he reminds us that the oak was of special sanctity amongst the Celtic nations, as shown, amongst other things, by the words of Maximus Tyrius: 'The Celts worship Zeus, and the Celtic image of Zeus is a tall oak.' Professor Rhys, in his Hibbert Lectures, replies as follows to the question 'whose temple Stonehenge was, or whose it chiefly was': 'After giving it all the attention I can, I have come to the conclusion that we cannot do

better than follow the story of Geoffrey, which makes Stonehenge the work of Merlin Emrys, commanded by another Emrys, which I interpret to mean that the temple belonged to the Celtic Zeus, whose later legendary self we have in Merlin.”—“Life in Early Britain,” *Windle*.

Returning to Salisbury, the rte. by the valley of the Avon, locally known as **the Bournes**, may be advantageously taken. Proceeding over Normanton Downs, in 2 m. we reach the village of **Wilsford**. Wilsford House is a handsome modern mansion. A little further down the stream is *Lake House* (J. W. Lovibond, Esq.), a very picturesque mansion in the Elizabethan style, of the time of James I., and a remarkably fine and perfect specimen of the architecture of that period. In the park are some fine barrows planted with fir-trees.

2½ m. is **Great Durnford Church**, with very rich Norm. N. and S. doorways and chancel arch. The font is Norm., with an intersecting arcade. There is a curious brass to Edward Young, his wife, and 14 children, 1670. In the chancel is a copy of Jewell's “Apologie of the Church of Englande,” 1571, chained to an ancient desk. Great Durnford House was once a seat of the Hungerfords. Evelyn notes in his Diary, July 22nd, 1654, “We dined at a ferme of my uncle Hungerfords, called Darneford Magna, situate in a valley under the plaine, most sweetly watered, abounding in troutes.”

Opposite to Great Durnford is **Ogbury Camp**, an entrenched

circular earthwork, with a vallum more than 30 ft. high.

5 m. At **Middle Woodford** is **Heale House** (Hon. L. G. Greville), one of the many hiding-places in which Charles II. found shelter after the battle of Worcester. The house has been altered, but some of the carved work remains. Charles II. came to Stonehenge from his concealment at Heale House, to meet the friends who were to conduct him to the coast of Sussex, where they had secured a vessel for his escape. Arriving at the spot before the appointed hour, the King, to beguile the time, counted and recounted the stones, and proved to his satisfaction the fallacy of the vulgar notion that they cannot be told twice alike. No trace remains of the palace of the bishops of Salisbury which formerly stood here.

Heale Hill is remarkable for a circle on the summit, and for traces of a British village on the S. slope. We reach at

6 m. **Stratford-sub-Castle**, lying close under the hill of Old Sarum, which derived its name from the Roman *street* or road which here *forded* the river on its course to Badbury Rings and Dorchester. The manor-house was the residence of *William Pitt, Earl of Chatham*, who was first returned to Parliament (1735) as member for those vacant mounds on the hill above. Governor Pitt purchased the manor in 1690 for £1500, and Lord Grenville, who had married the sister of Thomas Pitt, Lord Camelford, afterwards sold it for £65,000 to Lord Caledon. In 1801 John

Horne Tooke was returned by Lord Camelford, and in his case the question of the disability of clergymen to sit as members of Parliament was tried and settled. The door-head of the quaint gabled parsonage bears the inscription—"Parva sed apta domino, 1675." A charming lime avenue leads from the parsonage to the *Ch.*, a debased Perp. building, bearing on the tower in large letters the inscription—"Thomas Pitt, Esq., Benefactor, Anno 1711." It contains an hour-glass-stand for the pulpit.

(b) To **Bemerton** and **Wilton**.

The second object of interest to be visited from Salisbury is *Wilton House*, the seat of the Earl of Pembroke, and celebrated for its marbles and pictures. It is 3 m. distant. There are stations at Wilton, both of the G.W. and S.W. Rlys.; but by far the most agreeable way of visiting it is in a carriage, or still better on foot. To the l. of the road is the hamlet of

1½ m. **Bemerton**, interesting as the living of *George Herbert* (1630-32), so charmingly described by Izaak Walton as "the good and more pleasant than healthful parsonage of Bemerton," in which he died, 1632, in his 43rd year. Herbert restored the parsonage and old church, within the altar-rail of which he lies buried. According to the tradition, an aged fig-tree against the wall of the rectory and a medlar-tree in the garden were planted by him. On the front of the parsonage is the following inscription which he composed:—

"If thou chance for to find
A new house to thy mind,
And built without thy cost,
Be good to the poor
As God gives thee store,
And then my labour's not lost."

Norris, the poet and divine, and *Coxe*, the traveller and historian, were also rectors of Bemerton. The bells in the church turret, the same tolled by Herbert at his institution, are of the 14th century, the S. and W. windows of Dec. date (about 1300), the doorway and pulpit canopy Jacobean, and the font E.E. There is a very good example of a low side window. A new *Ch.* has been erected near the old one as a memorial of Herbert by his admirers. One of the earliest paper-mills in England was established at Bemerton.

★ **Wilton**, 3 m. (Pop. 2120), is a small quiet town situated on the junction of the Wylde and Nadder.

It is of great antiquity, and, as the capital of the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Wessex, gave name to Wiltshire, and was the scene of many stirring events. It was here that, according to Palgrave, when Wessex and Mercia were contending for the possession of all England S. of the Humber, Ecgbert, King of Wessex, overthrew, in the year 823, his rival Beornwulf in the bloody victory of Ellendun, and dwelt here "nine long winters in rest and peace." His successors frequently resided here. (The seat of the battle is perhaps more probably placed at Allington, near Amesbury.) In 871 the great Aelfred here defeated the Danes in a pitched battle, which procured him a peace of 2 years' duration. In 1003 the Danes had their revenge, when under Sweyn they

burnt the place to the ground. In Norman times Wilton was considered the first and most valuable of the royal boroughs. Here the Empress Maud kept her Easter festival in royal state, A.D. 1141. Two years later, July 1st, 1143, King Stephen came to Wilton with the view of building a castle here, and by this means curbing the rebellious burghers of Sarum; but the Earl of Gloucester, having assembled a force for the Empress Maud, fired the houses and put the monarch to flight. According to Harding, he was aided by King David of Scotland.

"The kyng Stephan a castell then
began
At Wilton, where kyng David with
power
And Erle Robert of Glocester that
was then
Him drove awaye out of that place
full clere,
And bet it downe to the ground full
nere."

During all these early times Wilton flourished as a large and busy town, quickly recovering from its disasters, and it continued to prosper down to the year 1244, when it received the blow which was to prove fatal to its importance in the diversion of the great western road, which formerly passed through it on its way from Old Sarum.* In 1349 the prosperity of the town received another severe blow from a pestilence which carried off a third of the population. In the 15th century it had a brisk trade in beer, and the Mayor was obliged to interfere to settle the claims of the rival brewers, ordaining the days on which they were severally to brew. In 1551 Edward VI. on his fruitless tour for health visited Wilton, which was honoured by

* "The chaunging of this way was the total cause of the ruine of Old Saresbyri and Wiltown, for afore Wiltown had 12 paroches churches or more, and was the hedde town of Wileshir."—*Leland*. The 12 churches are all identified by Sir R. C. Hoare.

the presence of Elizabeth in one of her progresses, in which she is described as having shown herself "both merrie and pleasante." James I. paid it frequent visits, in 1620 making an expedition from it to visit Stonehenge. In 1627, on account of the plague at Salisbury, the market was transferred to Wilton, and tradition points out a mossy stone by the wayside between West Harnham and Netherhampton, where the money of the customers was deposited in a basin of vinegar.

In our times the name of Wilton has been associated with *carpets*, which were first made in England at this town (by a Mr. Moody), and are still the staple of the place. In the factory of Messrs. Lapworth Brothers the finest Axminsters are manufactured, as well as those called Saxony, made of short-staple wool.

The **Wylve** and **Nadder**, which wash the sides of Wilton, effect a junction below the park of the Pembrokes. The Wylve rises on the high land formerly bosomed in Selwood, and on its approach to this place flows for a long distance by the side of the ancient forest of Grovely.

The Wylve, insignificant stream as it is, is immortalized by Spenser, in his "Faery Queen" (book iv., c. 11):—

"Next him went Wylebourne with passage
sly,
That of his wyliness his name doth take,
And of himself doth name the shire
thereby."

The **monastery** here is usually said to owe its foundation to Aelfred, who endowed it with his manor of

Wilton, established it in the royal palace, and added an abbess and 12 nuns. But he was really the *re*-founder, for it had been originally founded by Wulstan, earl of the Wilsaetas, while languishing of his wounds after the battle of Cyne-mæresford, A.D. 800. This first foundation was merely a chantry or oratory, changed A.D. 830 into a priory of Benedictine sisters, of which Aethelburh, Wulstan's widow, became first prioress. It was much patronized by Anglo-Saxon kings, and refounded by Alfred at the instigation of his queen. Wulfrude or Wulfrith, a noble mistress of Eadgar's, and mother of St. Aedyth of Wilton, who had been educated here, became abbess c. 968. Eadgar wished to marry her on the death of his wife, but she devoted herself to religion. There is a curious tale told of the relics of the Welsh saint Ivius or Yweg. "The clerks who bore the sacred remains were entertained by Wulfrith, and the casket containing them was placed on the altar. The next morning it was found immovably fixed. The abbess gave them 200s., and they departed sorrowful." St. Aedyth refused the abbess-ship her father wished her to receive, and died A.D. 984, at the early age of 23. Miracles were worked by her remains, and she became the patron saint of the convent. A second Aedyth, daughter of Earl Godwine, and wife of Eadward the Confessor, rebuilt the church, which had been of wood, in stone, and it was dedicated by Bp. Herman, 1065, shortly before the consecration of Westminster Abbey. Christina, sister of Eadgar Atheling, was abbess of Wilton, and her niece Maud was brought up here, wearing the veil unwillingly to save herself from the insolence of the Normans; but as soon as she got out of her aunt's presence she

would take it off, throw it on the ground, and trample it under foot. When Juliana de Giffard was abbess, temp. Edward I., her relation Osborn de Giffard carried off two nuns, for which he was sentenced among other things to be whipped naked with rods three several Sundays in the church of Wilton, and also in the church and market-place of Shaftesbury, lay aside all knightly insignia, and wear russet and sheepskins, and wear no shirt till he had been three years in the Holy Land. In 1379 the discipline was lax, and Bp. Wyvil issued an ordinance for its regulation, from which we find that the bread, milk, and beer were so bad that the nuns were obliged to sell them and buy better. The abbess was ordered to supply the same she had herself, under pain of suspension. There are curious letters extant of Henry VIII. to Wolsey, and Anne Boleyn, who had a favourite she wished to be abbess, but who proved to be of very low life. "I wolde not," writes the King, "for all the gold in the world clog your conscience nor mine to make her a ruler of a house which is of so ungodly a demeanour, nor I trust you would not that neither for brother nor sister I should so destain mine honour or conscience." At the dissolution there were an abbess, who retired to Fovant, and 31 nuns. The abbess, by virtue of her office, was a baroness of England, a privilege shared only by Shaftesbury, Barking, and St. Mary's, Winton.

The so-called see of Wilton, *i.e.*, of the "Wiltunensis episcopus" (Wilton was never the seat of a bishopric), was really that of Wiltshire, established at Ramsbury A.D. 909. Ethelstan was the first bishop, Herman the ninth and last (d. 1078); shortly after the Conquest the see was removed to *Sarum*.

The **Hospital of St. John** was founded by Bp. Hubert (c. 1189). There are some remains of the buildings, including a small chapel, with a piscina.

The former parish church, in the centre of Wilton, has been partly pulled down, but the remaining ivy-clad fragments are very picturesque; the ancient **borough cross** remains on the site it has so long occupied by the churchyard wall.

Wilton received a great ornament by the erection in 1844, by the Rt. Hon. Sidney Herbert, afterwards Lord Herbert of Lea, of a new **church** in the Lombardic style of the N. of Italy, from designs by T. H. Wyatt, which for gorgeousness and beauty of detail stands unrivalled. Elevated on a terrace, it presents its front to the road, the bell-tower rising on the side to a height of 108 ft. distinct from the church, after the fashion of the Italian campanile, but communicating with it by a cloister of elaborately worked columns in pairs. The front is approached by a flight of steps 100 ft. in width, and presents three deeply recessed circular porches, the central and principal entrance being ornamented with mouldings, exquisitely worked, and with pillars, the foremost of which are twisted and detached, resting on lions sculptured in stone from the Isle of Man.

The usual entrance for visitors is by the door under the campanile, and through the cloister. The internal door has black marble twisted columns; above it the visitor will observe a Jacobean monument skilfully utilized. On each side of the nave are eight

semicircular arches, supported on cylindrical shafts with richly carved capitals, each of a different design. Between the clerestory windows and the principal arches is a kind of triforium arcade, skilfully breaking the bareness of the walls. The roof is open, and needs colour and gilding. At the E. end is a gallery of Painswick stone, supported on marble columns with alabaster capitals, and bearing the motto, "All things come of Thee, and of Thine own have we given Thee." Below the gallery is the font of variously coloured marble, resting on a polished black slab of the same material, and decorated with the fruit and leaves of the vine, in allusion to the parable of our Saviour: "I am the vine, ye are the branches."

One window to the l. is filled with very gorgeous Flemish glass. That opposite is a memorial to the lamented founder of the church, erected by the townspeople. There are several other memorial windows in the nave. The pulpit is one of the most magnificent and interesting of the many works of art for which this church is conspicuous; it is of Caen stone, and is supported on sixteen black marble columns, with alabaster capitals. In the upper part the visitor will notice some small twisted marble columns, with spiral bands of mosaic. These formed part of a shrine set up in St. Maria Maggiore in Rome, A.D. 1256, and being ejected during some repairs in the last century, found their way to Strawberry Hill, where they were purchased by the builder of the church. Other larger members

of the shrine (of the same shape and pattern) may be seen in and about the chancel. They are interesting as rare specimens of the "opus Græcanicum," of which the only other ancient examples in England are the shrine of the Confessor and the tomb of Henry III. in Westminster Abbey. A piece of good modern mosaic, formed of porphyry, serpentine, and white marble, of Italian manufacture, lies in the pavement at the foot of the chancel steps, between the pulpit and the reading-desk. This last is ornamented with fine bas-reliefs in wood, executed in Belgium, representing the four Evangelists. The lectern is formed by a gilt eagle standing on three black marble pillars. The arches dividing the aisles of the chancel from those of the nave are supported by lofty shafts of black and gold marble, each of a solid block, from Porto Venere, in the Gulf of Spezzia. The shafts supporting the nave arch are imitations in scagliola. The central apse is adorned with an arcade of twisted columns of rich Sienna marble, with alabaster capitals. The communion-table, gorgeously vested, stands, according to ancient precedent, in the centre of the chord of the apse. The windows of the great apse are filled with medallions of richly coloured glass of the 13th century. Many of these are French, and some are fine examples of the best period of glass painting. The side apses have glass of different periods, including some whole-length figures of excellent drawing and colours. The apse to the l. of the communion-table contains a mural brass (1585), and an alms-chest of wrought

iron from Venice. In the opposite apse are the monuments of the Pembrokes removed from the old parish church, one by Westmacott and another by Rossi, good specimens of their style. In far higher taste are the two altartombs, with white marble recumbent effigies, sculptured by Francis, lately erected within the altar rails in memory of the late Lord Herbert of Lea (d. 1861), and his mother, Catherine, Countess of Pembroke, daughter of Count Woronzow (d. 1856). The tombs are of alabaster, arcaded, and inlaid with coloured marbles. The spandrils of Lord Herbert's tomb are carved with subjects illustrative of his public life, especially when, as Secretary of War, the British soldier was indebted to him for so many improvements in his moral and sanitary condition. These monuments are very successful examples of a return to a better taste in sepulchral memorials. The floor of the chancel is laid with Singer's tesserae. The church is lighted by hanging lamps of embossed brass, copied from Venetian examples. The carvings in pear-tree wood, which form the panels of the doors, must not be unnoticed. Beneath the altar is the Pembroke vault, entered from without, and open to the air. The tombstones in the churchyard are nearly all varieties of the memorial cross.

* WILTON HOUSE—

"Pembroke's princely dome, where mimic
Art

Decks with a magic hand the dazzling
bowers;

Its living hues where the warm pencil
pours,

And breathing forms from the rude
marble start." *T. Warton.*

—occupies the site of the monas-

tery given, with the lands attached to it, by Henry VIII. to Sir William Herbert, first Earl of Pembroke. The place abounds in interesting associations. "Charles I. did love Wilton above all places, and came there every summer. By his advice the garden front of the house was built in the Italian style."—*Aubrey*. The family of Herbert have been distinguished equally in arts, arms, and literature. They were the patrons of Holbein, Shakespeare, who with his troop acted here before James I. in 1603, Ben Jonson, Inigo Jones, and Vandyck, and of Massinger, whose father was a retainer of the family. Sir Philip Sidney wrote part of his "Arcadia" on this spot, at the request of his sister, Countess of Pembroke, whose beautiful epitaph, generally attributed to Ben Jonson, was really written by William Browne, author of the "Pastorals."

"Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother :
Death, ere thou hast slain another
Wise, and fair, and good as she,
Time shall throw a dart at thee."

A lock of this lady's hair is preserved here.

The present mansion, famed for its *marbles* and pictures, but particularly renowned for its *Vandycks*, is, for the most part, modern. It was begun temp. Elizabeth. Holbein designed the porch. The house was altered temp. Charles I. from designs of a Gascon named Solomon de Caus, and was restored, after a fire, by Webb, Inigo Jones's son-in-law. It was "Gothicised" in questionable taste by James Wyatt at the beginning of the present century, but has been improved by more recent alterations.

A **triumphal arch**, surmounted by a cast from the equestrian statue of Marcus Aurelius, leads to the chief entrance.

The **hall** is adorned with suits of ancient armour, which have an interest independent of their splendour in being trophies of the victory of St. Quentin, gained by the Spaniards over the French, with the co-operation of a brave band of English sent by Queen Mary, under the command of William, Earl of Pembroke, 1557. His armour is here, together with the full suits of the Constable Anne de Montmorency, Louis de Bourbon, Duc de Montpensier, etc.

The **Pembroke Marbles**, arranged in the hall and around the cloister, were collected, 1678, by Thomas, eighth Earl of Pembroke, of whom Pope said,

"For Pembroke, statues, dirty gods, and coins,"

and include a portion of those of Thomas, Earl of Arundell (the rest are at Oxford), and of the collection of Giustiniani, of the Valetta Gallery at Naples, and of Cardinal Mazarin. They long possessed an undeserved reputation, for, in truth, many of the specimens are modern antiques; among the genuine ancient marbles not a few are mutilated, the limbs, etc., are badly restored, and the greater part are of second-rate value as works of art. The best are—

In the **entrance-hall**: statues of Apollo, Jupiter, and the elder Faustina; a mosaic in relief of Hercules in the garden of the Hesperides; a serpent twined round the golden apple-tree, very curious, and probably unique; a

colossal horse, workmanship admirable, head noble and delicate; Curtius leaping into the fiery chasm, a bas-relief in a circle.

In the **gallery**: No. 1. An altar of Bacchus, the figures in relief. 8. A sleeping nymph. 23. The gods summoned by Vulcan to see Venus and Mars taken in the net, an oval relief. 48. Bas-relief of Jupiter on his throne. 61. Death of Meleager, 3 bas-reliefs on a sarcophagus, after the Greek model, the figures finely designed, the workmanship indifferent. 62. Silenus drinking out of a cantharus; the action spirited. 109. A Cippus, "the figures very noble and simple in action." *Waagen*. 115. A relief of Venus accompanied by Tritons and Nereids. 117. Statue of a female seated. 124. Cupid bending his bow, a copy of the well-known work of Praxiteles, very delicate, but only the torso is old. 136. An ancient Roman consular chair, part bronze, part iron. 137. A sarcophagus, with reliefs from the story of Ceres and Bacchus; the principal subject represents Ceres sending Triptolemus to sow corn; workmanship indifferent, of a late time. 151. Statue of a young Faun, gracefully twisting back his body to look at a panther at his feet, a repetition of an often-repeated group, the design good, and of delicate execution. 163. Large sarcophagus, with high relief of the destruction of Niobe's children, of a late period, the attitudes very beautiful, and probably from older models. 170. An Amazon defending herself against a horseman. 171. The family of Niobe, "an elegant bas-relief of the

cinque-cento time, and strongly resembling the works of the able Florentine sculptor Benedetto da Rovezzano, who was for a time in England." — *Waagen's* "Treasures of Art."

Busts: Of Nero; Julia Mæsa; Lucan; and a so-called Lucilla, daughter of Marcus Aurelius (wonderfully finished). Passavant, however, in his "Tour," remarks that those of Germanicus, Augustus, and several of the Greek poets, are the finest in the collection.

Paintings: "The chief strength of the collection consists in works of the German and Flemish schools." — *Waagen*.

Albert Dürer (1512) (? *I. H. Rhénus*): The Descent from the Cross, "wrought with amazing labour and neatness, the composition good and well conducted throughout, but the style dry and hard; the expressions poor, but the actions good. The colours are positive, without any attempt at harmony, and yet are well arranged." — *T. Phillips*, R.A. From the Arundell collection. *Parmegiano*: Virgin, Child, St. John, and Catherine, "very beautifully designed, but rather hard in the execution, and inharmonious in colour." — *P*. It was given by the Grand Duke of Tuscany to Philip, Earl of Pembroke. *Spagnoletto*: Democritus, whole-length, laughing, exceedingly fine, and expression entirely appropriate; King Richard II. when young (*i.e.*, about 1377), backed by his patrons, St. John Baptist, St. Edmund King, and St. Edward Confessor, praying to the Virgin and Child. A Diptych, curious from its age and style, and probably by an

Italian painter. It is mentioned by Walpole as an early specimen of *oil-painting*, whereas it is in *distemper*, not in oil. It is on a gold background, the finish careful, the arrangement formal, the faces uniform and without expression. The arms of the King, the broom-pod (Plantagenet), and the white hart, derived from his mother, are seen on his robe and on the angels' necks. *Netscher*: Portrait of De Witt. *Holbein*: The Father of Sir Thomas More; shows the simple truth of nature; hands excellent. *Mabuse*: The Three Children of Henry VII., same as those at Hampton Court and Longford, but good. *Honthorst*: Prince Rupert, one of the finest paintings here. *Andrea Mantegna*: Judith with the head of Holofernes, "her features and attitude noble and graceful, carefully executed." *Andrea del Sarto*: Holy Family. *Baldassare Peruzzi*: The Ascension of our Lord. *N. Poussin*: Two boys playing with a bird. *Mieris's* own portrait, capital. *Titian*: Head of the Magdalen; has suffered much. *Vandyck*: Philip Herbert, Earl of Pembroke, with his wand of office, small sketch for the larger picture. *Rubens*: Four children, Christ and St. John with a lamb, a little girl, and an angel, a subject often repeated by Rubens. *Steenwick*: Peter conducted out of prison, a dark crypt, minutely painted, but with good effect. *Parmegiano*: Ceres, genuine, but affected attitude. *Guido*: Charity; must have been beautiful, but is spoiled by rubbing. It belonged to Charles I. *Lucas Van Leyden*: Men and women playing cards, one of the very rare genuine works of this master,

heads animated and spirited, full of expression, though hard in manner. *Sir Joshua Reynolds*: Henry, tenth Earl of Pembroke. *An Antique Painting* from the Temple of Juno, representing Minerva, Hercules, Diana, Apollo, Ceres, Vertumnus, and Juno, rude in the treatment, but worthy of notice on account of the broad handling.

In the double cube, or **Great Room**, are the * **portraits by Vandyck**, the pride and boast of the Wilton collection. The finest are—

The Herbert Family, ten figures, Philip, Earl of Pembroke, and his countess, in black, seated on a raised platform; on their rt. their five sons; on their l. their daughter, in blue, and her husband, Robert, Earl of Carnarvon; before them Lady Mary, daughter of George, Duke of Buckingham, betrothed to Charles, Lord Herbert; above, in the clouds, as angels, two sons and a daughter, who died young. This large work stands alone in point of merit. The personages are not dramatically connected together, but they all look out of the picture.

The late Mr. Phillips, R.A., observes, "I am at a loss for words to convey my admiration of this picture. An air of nobleness reigns over it, with rich and deep colouring. Yet I think the expression bad; and wish it had an unity of subject, or any subject. But, as it is, when shall we see its like again?" (1801).

Charles I. in armour, half-length, very excellent; Henrietta Maria, inferior, perhaps a copy; 3 children of Charles I., beautifully painted, particularly the princess,

dated 1635; the Duchess of Richmond and her dwarf, Mr. Gibson, whole-length, very good, especially the dwarf (the Duke is probably by Jansen); the Countess of Castlehaven, in an orange dress; the second Earl Philip, half-length, not one of Vandyck's best; Mrs. Killigrew and Mrs. Morton, beauties of Charles I.'s court, "well-painted heads, especially Mrs. Killigrew's, which is in his most finished manner—rich, soft, and true, beyond measure."—*T. P.*; Earl and Countess of Bedford, same size of canvas, but very inferior; Philip, Earl of Pembroke; Penelope, wife of Philip, Earl of Pembroke, "a genuine, carefully executed, and excellent picture."—*Waagen*.

In the **library** are portraits of William, first Earl of Pembroke, the friend of Shakespeare, and founder of the family, with his dog, which pined away at his death: it is called *Holbein's*, but either it is not his, or it has been repainted, the hands very bad; portraits of Alexander Pope and of St. Evremond. A copy of the "Arcadia" contains a lock of Queen Elizabeth's hair, given by her to Sir Philip Sidney, together with some verses in his hand in acknowledgment of the gift.

The **grounds** and gardens of Wilton, although flat, are exceedingly beautiful, owing to the views they command, especially the vista opening on Salisbury spire, opposite the S.E. angle of the house; to the noble trees, particularly the group of cedars, and an ancient ilex, beneath whose branches Sir Philip Sidney may have reclined when he here composed his "Arcadia"; and to the

architectural ornaments, such as the *triumphal arch* by Chambers, and the covered *Palladian bridge*, built by Henry, Earl of Pembroke, over the water (the Nadder). The Italian garden, tastefully arranged with balustrades and vases, terminates in a **pavilion**, once a vestibule of the house. This was designed by *Holbein*, in the style of the Renaissance, and consists of a portico of pillars, with busts of Edward VI. and the Earl of Pembroke inserted.

(c) To **Britford, Longford, and Clarendon**.

1½ m. S.W. is **Britford Church**, a cruciform building without aisles with an embattled tower and low spire, well restored by Mr. Street in 1873. It is mainly of the 14th century, but with remains of so-called Anglo-Saxon work, which deserve careful attention. These consist of three arches, one on either side of the nave, towards the E. end, and on the S. side towards the W. They have been opened out during the last repair and annexes erected, enabling them to be examined in every part. According to some they are Roman arches *in situ*, but Micklethwaite, with whom most authorities agree, believes them to be Anglo-Saxon work of the 9th century. The E. jamb of the northern arch is elaborately decorated with carving representing a vine. These arches appear to have opened into aisles, or chapels. The church contains a mausoleum of the Bouveries, and in the chancel is a curious altar-tomb, sculptured with figures of St. Margaret, St. Nicholas, St. Ed-

mund of Canterbury, St. Catherine with her symbols, the sword and the wheel, St. George, and the Virgin and Child, which is reported to have been brought from the College de Vaux at Salisbury a few years since. This tomb was erroneously attributed by Sir R. C. Hoare to the Duke of Buckingham, beheaded at Salisbury. An interesting dwarf effigy of a male figure holding a cup, found in the restoration, is preserved in the chancel. The mausoleum of the Radnor family lies to the N. of the chancel. The old parsonage, N.W. of the church, is a picturesque brick and stone building. A large annual fair for horses, cattle, and sheep is held here.

3 m. ***LONGFORD CASTLE**, seat of the Earl of Radnor, may be seen only with Lord Radnor's permission. It stands in the marshy valley of the Avon, a little to the N. of its confluence with the stream from the valley of Chalk.

It was built about 1591 by Sir Thomas Gorges, buried under a pompous tomb in the N. aisle of the choir of the cathedral (see p. 282), who married a Danish lady, Helena Snachenberg, who had come over to England in the suite of Princess Cecilia, daughter of Eric, King of Sweden. She became a favourite at court, and her first husband was William, Lord Parr of Kendal, Marquis of Northampton, brother of Queen Katharine Parr. Her second husband was induced by her, nearly to his own ruin, to construct his house after the model of the castle of Uranienberg, designed by Tycho Brahe. He accordingly pulled down an ancient mansion of the Cervingtons,

and prepared the ground for the new building; but so great proved the expense of driving piles as a foundation, that Sir Thomas nearly sank his fortune at the outset. At this juncture came the alarm of the Spanish Armada, when Sir Thomas was appointed governor of Hurst Castle, and, as luck would have it, a Spanish galleon was soon wrecked near his post. His wife modestly begged but the *hull* of the queen, and in this were found bars of silver and other treasure ample, and more than sufficient, to complete the intended structure at Longford. The work, therefore, proceeded merrily, and was completed in 1591, at a cost of about £18,000. The architect was John Thorpe, who built Holland House. The castle, as it then appeared (the "castle of Amphialeus" of Sir Philip Sidney's "Arcadia"), had the singular form of a triangle, enclosing a court of a similar shape, and flanked by circular towers at the angles, the whole being surrounded by a moat filled with water from the Avon. In this form it was surrendered in 1645 to Cromwell, who had mounted a battery opposite the garden front. ("I shall be at Longford House to-night, if God please. I hope the work will not be long" (Oct. 16th, 1645). "I came thither this day" (Oct. 17th), "and immediately sent them a summons. The governor desired I should send two officers to treat with him. The meeting produced the agreement." — *Cromwell's* "Letters.") In 1717 it came into the possession of the present family, the Bouveries, by purchase.

The castle, as it now stands, was altered from the triangle of the Gorges by a former Lord Radnor, who had intended to rebuild it in the form of a hexagon, but left it unfinished. It was

finished by the late Earl. At each of the corners is a tower. It is chiefly remarkable for its collection of **paintings**. "This collection is not only the first in England as regards Holbein, but, considering the master-works of other schools, and also the large number of valuable pictures it contains, generally speaking, it may justly be considered one of the most important in the country."—*Waagen*. Among them are the following:—

In the **Chapel**: *Hendrik Bles* ("Civetta," an old Flemish painter): adoration of the Virgin by SS. Barbara, Catherine, Cecilia, Dorothea, etc., very good and curious, the female figure on the rt. painted with great feeling for beauty, on the wings St. John the Baptist and St. John the Divine. (This picture was long supposed to be by Dürer, until Civetta's signature, an owl, was discovered in 1893.) *Old German School*: the Visit of Magi and Salutation.

In the **Long Gallery**: *Murillo*: Ruth and Naomi. *Guido*: head of a Magdalen, a picture of a most attractive sweetness, painted with great clearness; (2) Europa and the Bull, a masterpiece, the original of many repetitions. *Claude*: 2 celebrated pictures known as the Morning and Evening, or Rise and Fall of the Roman empire; one represents the landing of Æneas in the Bay of Naples by sunrise, "the morning freshness of nature typifying the beginning of the Roman empire," the other the ruins of the Arch of Titus and the Coliseum, with the sun sinking towards the sea. "Two masterly pictures, with great depth and

fulness of colour, combined with softness of gradations."—*Waagen*. *Rubens*: a large landscape of the desolate country around the Escurial, "carefully and admirably painted, but not the original of this often-repeated view, which is said to beat Petworth" (*Waagen*); (2) Diana with her Nymphs returning from the Chase, a sketch for the picture at Dresden. *Michael Angelo* and *Seb. del Piombo*: St. Sebastian's Martyrdom; carefully executed in very clear colouring, in the background rocks and ruins of singular forms. *Nicolas Poussin*: the Worship of the Golden Calf and the Passage of the Red Sea, capital works, of the artist's best period, scarcely equalled by any in the Louvre. *Correggio*: Venus disarming Cupid, a picture in the style of those in the National Gallery, a very celebrated picture in the last century, when it was brought from Rome by Sir William Hamilton, and sold for a large sum to Vandergucht, the picture dealer. *Carlo Dolce*: Christ crowned with thorns. *Rubens*: portrait of a man. *J. de Mabuse*: Virgin and Child; (2) the Three Children of Christian II., King of Denmark (a replica of the original picture at Hampton Court). In this gallery stands a wonderful and probably unique specimen of metal-work, viz., a *steel chair*, presented to the Emperor Rudolph II. by the city of Augsburg, where it was made by one Thomas Ruker, in 1574. It is covered by 130 groups of figures in relief, representing events in the history of the Roman empire from Nebuchadnezzar's dream of the colossal image, and from the landing of Æneas in Italy down to Rudolph's

own time. It was carried off from Prague by the Swedes, brought to England in the 18th century, and sold to the Radnor family. "It is the richest and most tasteful work of the kind I am acquainted with."—*Waagen*.

In the **Long Parlour**: *Rubens*: his second son, Franz, a beautiful portrait. *Teniers*: return from shooting. *Vandyck*: King Charles I.; (2) * Queen Henrietta Maria. *Rubens*: Cupid's Harvesting. *Wouverman*: Dutch fair. *D. Teniers*: Dutch Boers playing at bowls. *Franz Hals*: old man; (2) * old woman. *Wynants*: landscape, with figures by A. Van der Velde. *Reynolds*: Rebecca, Viscountess Folkestone. *Gainsborough*: Countess of Radnor.

In the **saloon**: *Vandyck*: Gaston, Duke of Orleans; (2) Catherine, daughter of Thomas, Lord Wotton, Countess of Chesterfield; (3) Countess of Monmouth. *Reynolds*: Hon. Harriet Bouverie; (2) * Hon. Mrs. E. Bouverie and child; (3) Master Jacob Bouverie; (4) * Lady Catherine Pelham Clinton.

In the **Square Drawing-room**: *Vandyck*: Rubens on the horse given him by Vandyck. *Rubens*: Archduke Albrecht, Governor of the Netherlands, on horseback.

In the **Triangular Gallery**: *Holbein* (or Van Cleef): portrait of gentleman pointing to a globe (formerly called Martin Luther). *Carlo Dolci*: his own portrait. *Rubens*: Diana and Nymphs. *Gheeraedts*: Dame Elizabeth Finch; (2) portrait of Queen Elizabeth. *Lucas de Heere*: portrait of Sir Thomas Wyndham. *Zuccaro*: Lady Elizabeth Seymour. *Lucas de Heere*: Mary,

Queen of Scots. *Angelica Kauffman*: Hon. P. Bouverie-Pusey.

In the **Green Drawing-room**: *Tintoret*: a Venetian nobleman of the Noce family. *Paris Bordone*: a portrait of Violante, daughter of Palma Vecchio, commonly designated Titian's Mistress. * *Velasquez*: portrait of Juan de Pareja, his Moorish slave. *Sir Joshua Reynolds*: Anne, Countess of Radnor, in a large black hat. (2) Miss Harriet Bouverie, afterwards wife of Sir James Tilney Long, Bart.

* *Holbein*: portrait of Erasmus, brought to England by the painter, with a letter of introduction from Erasmus to Sir Thomas More. This picture, says Waagen, "is alone worth a pilgrimage to Longford. Seldom has a painter so fully succeeded in bringing to view the whole character of so original a mind as in this instance." The execution is most masterly and careful, even to the accessories, the brown fur, for instance, and it is evident that the artist here tried to do his best. * *Quintin Matsys*: portrait of Peter Ægidius, the traveller, "as animated in conception as it is delicate in individuality."

On an eminence nearly opposite Longford, on the E. side of the river, stood **Ivy Church**, an Augustinian priory founded by Henry II. within the boundaries of the forest of Clarendon. Some remains of its walls may still be seen in a building which occupies its site, and one of its old fireplaces, 7 ft. in length, and cut from a single block of Portland stone, is in the kitchen of the Green Dragon at *Alderbury*, a village on the Southampton road.

On the return to Salisbury, the small remains of the royal palace of **Clarendon** may be visited, lying 2 m. E. of Salisbury. The drive is a most attractive one.

This ancient forest was granted by the Conqueror to Humphrey the Bearded, the first of the family of Bohun, and its palace was celebrated as a residence of our kings from the reign of Henry I. to that of Edward III., and as the scene of some important events in our history, particularly of the enacting, by a great council of the nation summoned by Henry II. in 1164, of the famous "Constitutions of Clarendon," by which the King, alarmed by the increasing assumptions of Becket and the ecclesiastical order, sought "to settle beyond dispute the main points in contest between the Crown and the Church, to establish thus, with the consent of the whole nation, an English constitution in Church and State."—*Milman, L. C.* Its traditional name of *King John's Palace* has preserved the memory of its selection by that monarch as his favourite abode, but it attained its greatest magnificence in the reign of his successor, Henry III. At a later period, in 1356, Philip of Navarre did homage here to our Edward III. as King of France and Duke of Normandy; and in 1357, after the battle of Poitiers, the glades of Clarendon were enlivened by a royal chase, in which the captives John of France and David of Scotland rode side by side with our king. After the reign of Edward III. the palace of Clarendon appears to have been neglected, but its forest remained for many years a favourite hunting-ground of our monarchs. In the 14th century this royal domain was granted for a term to the first Earl of Pembroke. It was mortgaged by Charles I. to Chancellor Hyde,

who, it is believed, whilst mortgagee only, but in full and not unreasonable expectation that it would be ultimately his own, took the title of his peerage from this place. To his great mortification, however, Charles II. paid off the mortgage, and bestowed the estate in fee upon George Monk, Duke of Albemarle, whose successor left it by will to his cousin, the Earl of Bath. In 1713 it was purchased by Benjamin Bathurst, Esq., an ancestor of the present possessor.

Clarendon Lodge, a modern Doric mansion (F. E. W. Hervey-Bathurst, Esq.), is situated about a mile from the site of the ancient palace, of which there still remains a fragment of flint wall, now propped by buttresses and bearing an inscription which enlightens the passing traveller as to the many interesting memories connected with the spot. Clarendon is absurdly supposed by Kennet to derive its name from the camp which crowns a hill to the N. of it, which, to bolster up this derivation, is supposed to have been constructed by the Roman general Constantius Chlorus.

(d) **To Rushmore and Farnham.** The visitor to Salisbury, if he can possibly find time, should not fail to see the valuable ethnological collection of General Pitt-Rivers, F.R.S.

(e) *Walks round Salisbury.*

(1) L. over **Harnham Hill** (fine view) to Homington, about 3 m. S. of Salisbury; on reaching the top of **Homington Down**, before going down the steep hill into the village, turn off a little way on the rt. over the down, and

look into and along the valley for a very characteristic view of Wiltshire scenery, with its retired villages and their water meadows nestled in the valleys between the hills. Passing **Homington Church** (consecrated 1860), go straight on up the hill for nearly 2 m., till immediately on crossing **Grim's Ditch** you will come to a fine wood of yews, called the "**Great Yews.**" The road continues on southwards, skirting the yews on its l., but it is well worth while to spend half an hour or more in exploring this wood. Some of the yews are very large, and the effect is sometimes striking to any one standing under the vaulted space made by the meeting of five or six in a group. The botanist may find things to reward a search, and late in the year the bright green leaves and scarlet berries of the spindle-tree (*Euonymus Europæus*) will attract notice. The whole district here is wild and lonely, and the wood was once the haunt of a gang of sheep-stealers, who were at last detected by the smoke made in cooking some of their spoil. [If you have had enough of walking, you may strike through "the yews" towards Odstock Avenue, and return to Salisbury by the route to be mentioned directly.] After coming to the end of the yews, on standing at their S.W. corner, you will look over a wide range of open country. Strike off in a south-westerly direction (or rather S.S.W.) to **Damerham Knoll** (about 9 or 10 m. from Salisbury), which you will recognize by its three clumps of trees; walk along the knoll and begin your

return by striking down from the end of the knoll (N.E.) into the village of **Rockbourne**, then to **Whitsbury**, about a mile further N.E.; there is a fine view from Whitsbury churchyard, and from Whitsbury Camp, or **Castle Ditches**. Whitsbury is a large camp, enclosing, according to Sir R. C. Hoare, fifteen acres and a half; the circumference of the ditch he states to be 1210 yards, and the height of the vallum 39 ft.; part of the site is occupied by a farm, and the ramparts and ditch are overgrown by copses. From Whitsbury go on (N.E.) to **Mizmaze Hill**, on **Breamore Down**, and amuse yourself by following the windings of the circular maze cut in the turf, and enjoy the view of the undulating down broken by the frequent clumps of trees, and proceed on (N.W.) to **Gallows Hill**. The barrow or small knoll bearing this ill-omened name is marked by four Scotch firs, one dead and blasted; and on reaching the lonely spot you may believe, if you like, the local tradition that the place was so named because one of the owners of Breamore, in the time of Charles II., having gambled away great part of his mother's fortune, shot her in one of the rooms at Breamore House, and was hanged on this mound. Grim's Ditch comes up to this mound, and may be seen stretching away to l. (S.) for a long way, as yet undefaced by the plough. From Gallows Hill (N.N.W.) keep on to **Clearbury** (marked by its crown of firs, enclosed within the entrenchments of **Clearbury Ring**), and if the day is fine, you will see easily by the aid of a glass the

tower and roof of Christ Church Priory, in Hampshire, and the high downs in the Isle of Wight above the Needles, which are more than 25 m. off in direct distance. The red house on the hill-side to the l. is **Trafalgar**, the seat of Earl Nelson. From Clearbury make your way to **Odstock**, a little village in the valley below, about a mile to the N.W. The most pleasant way is to turn a short distance back, and to come down through the fine avenue leading from the woods on the hill W. of Clearbury down to Odstock Farm. The farmhouse at Odstock is the left wing of the manor-house of the Webbs; the date 1567 is marked on one of the stones, and some fine trees will be noticed about the grounds, especially the maples in front of the house. The *Ch.* has a picturesque E.E. chancel, and contains a founder's tomb with a mutilated old French inscription, and an altar-tomb without effigies, of the end of the 17th century, to several of the Webbs, including a fine one to Sir J. Webb, Bart. The E. and W. walls of the nave have frescoes of the Nativity and Doom by Mr. A. Weigall. The pulpit has the date 1580, with a couplet testifying to the popularity of Queen Elizabeth:—

“God bless and save our royal queen,
The lyke on earth was never seen.”

In the churchyard is the tombstone of Joseph Scamp, who was executed here, having pleaded guilty to a crime in the place of his son-in-law.

Odstock is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Salisbury, and as you come over

the hill and down into Salisbury note and enjoy the view.

(2) Through **Laverstock**, or by several other routes (if by Clarendon, see below), to the landmark on the down above the targets of the rifle volunteers. The view is very extensive and characteristic of Wiltshire, though not very picturesque. Martensell Hill, by the Wansdyke, some 20 m. distant (nearly due N.), stands out boldly over the valley of the Avon, and a little to the l. of Martensell may be seen with a glass the white horse cut in the turf above Woodborough. **Clarendon** is close by on the next hill below on the rt. (S.E.); on the l. the round head of **Cley Hill**, between Warminster and Longleat, is seen rising over the nearer downs; on the S. is **Clearbury**, marked by its clump of trees; the cathedral is well seen, and the woods by Wilton and Dinton. From this down you may go straight on across the turf to Chlorus's Camp, or **Figbury Ring**, which you will mark by a single tree standing within the ring, and can return by the London road if disinclined for further rambling over the downs; Figbury Ring is 3 m. from Salisbury by the road.

(3) As suggested above, **Clarendon** may be visited first, and it would not be very much out of the way; leave Salisbury by Milford Street or St. Ann's Street, and after exploring Clarendon woods and the crumbling fragments of the castle, strike down across the valley under the castle, and go straight up the hill on the other side in a direction from the castle.

Buckley inherited New Hall. **Odstock Church** is also on the rt. (see last Rte.).

4 m. rt. an earthwork, called

ROUTE 9.

SALISBURY TO WIMBORNE BY DOWNTON AND FORDING- BRIDGE (CRANBORNE, CRANBORNE CHASE).

(*Salisbury and Dorset Line of the
L. & S.W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Salisbury.
8 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Downton.
11 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Breamore.
13 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Fordingbridge.
ROAD.	Fordingbridge.
4 m.	Cranborne.
RAIL.	Fordingbridge.
23 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	West Moors.
27 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Wimborne.

This line runs S. along the valley of the Avon, leaving Wiltshire in 9 m. S. of Downton, and joining the Southampton and Weymouth line at West Moors Junction, 23 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. It passes on its course, l., **Britford**, the *Moat* (J. Oldham, Esq.), in 3 m. l. **Longford Castle** (see last Rte.), and further to the l. **New Hall**, residence of Alfred Buckley, Esq., D.L., J.P., who has here a valuable collection of pictures. The house was burnt down June, 1881, but the pictures were saved. "The number is considerable, and the majority of them attractive."—*Waagen*. Among them are fine examples of Van der Velde and Claude. On rt. the village of **Nunton**, of which the small church, restored by T. H. Wyatt, contains the monument of J. T. Batt, Esq., from whom General

Clearbury Ring, crowns a lofty hill. It is of an oblong shape, containing 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres, protected by a single ditch and rampart about 40 ft. in height, and was formerly attributed to the W. Saxons, particularly to Cerdic, who fought with the Britons 4 m. below Charford in 519, captured Old Sarum in 552, and finally completed the conquest of Wiltshire. But though occupied by the Saxons, it is probable that these and similar earthworks are of British construction. The spot commands a most extensive view.

5 m. l. **Trafalgar House** (Earl Nelson), built by Sir Peter Vandeput in 1733, and purchased in 1814, under an Act of Parliament, for the heirs of the conqueror of Trafalgar. The wings were added by Mr. Dawkins, M.P.; and a portico by Revett was built in 1766. The hall, a cube of 30 ft., is decorated with a profusion of stone carving. The walls of one of the rooms were painted by Cipriani. In the park are noble woods of beech, and near the river-side is an ancient chapel, said to have been founded as early as 1147. Adjoining Trafalgar House is **Barford**, now a farmhouse, purchased by the late Lord Nelson, and formerly the residence of Lord Feversham. Further to the l., at the foot of Brickworth Down, stands **Standlinch House**, with its prospect-house erected by the Eyres, from the foot of which on a clear day Southamp-

ton and Netley Hospital may be easily seen. 6 m. **Brickworth House**, formerly a Jacobean mansion, was burnt down a few years since, and the present house is modern. It stands in a deer-park of 20 acres. It was for many years the seat of a branch of the Eyres, but now belongs to Earl Nelson. To the E. of it is the old terraced garden.

$8\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. **Downton** (Pop. 1827) (6 m. from Salisbury by the road), a bright, attractive-looking little place, of great antiquity and early importance, and still retaining a vestige of Saxon times in a mound called the **Moot**, at the E. end of the village. This was a mound at which meetings of the village community were held. It is well preserved, and stands in the garden of E. P. Squarey, Esq. After the Conquest Downton belonged to the bishops of Winchester, who resided in it for many years. The site of their mansion, **Old Court**, is still pointed out on the rt. bank of the river, and there they are supposed to have entertained King John, who is known to have visited Downton on three separate occasions. Downton was a borough returning 2 members, disfranchised by the Reform Act. Among its representatives may be noticed Sir Carew Raleigh, Sir Walter's brother; Sir Charles Pratt, afterwards Lord Chancellor Camden; Sir W. Scott (Lord Stowell); and James Brougham. Southey was returned in 1826, but declined to sit.

The *Ch.* is a large cruciform building with a central tower, superior in size and character

to its neighbours, ranging from Norm. and E.E. to Perp. The three W. bays of the nave are Trans.-Norm.; the two E. bays are E.E. The E.E. transepts, with triplets in their gable walls, have been altered in Perp. times. The finest feature of the church is the chancel, which is Dec. of excellent character, with an E. window of 5 lights, and side windows of 3 lights, one of which is a very fine specimen of a low side window. The sedilia have been much restored. This chancel may be compared with Edington and Bishopston, being perhaps the earliest of the three. The tower arches are fine, with marble shafts. The bowl of the Purbeck marble font is Norm. There are some sumptuous monuments to the Duncombes, including those to Margaret, Lady Feversham, by Scheemakers, and (opposite) to her husband, Anthony, Lord Feversham (d. 1763), and his second wife (d. 1757). The tower (Perp.) was raised 30 ft. by the Earl of Radnor, 1791, but was reduced to its original height in 1860.

The old *manor-house*, of Elizabethan or Jacobean date, but now a farmhouse, was for a long time a residence of the Raleighs, and also the birthplace of *Admiral Sir Roger Curtis*, who commanded the gunboats at the siege of Gibraltar. One of the old chimney-pieces, sculptured with shields, may still be seen in the hall.

W. of Downton, on **Wick Down**, are remains of several complicated circles, forming a *maze*. The hills are crowned by the entrenchment of

Whitsbury, or **Castle Ditches** (see Rte. 8), from which the

Grim's-ditch may be placed in a winding course of some 6 m. This name occurs in many parts of England, and is generally derived from the Anglo-Saxon *grime*, an evil spirit, as if it signified the *Devil's Ditch*. A less romantic derivation has been given by Dr. Guest, from *gruma*, a mediæval word meaning *boundary*. This work has its fosse to the S.

The rly., crossing the Avon, leaves Wilts and enters Hants, and reaches

11 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Breamore Stat.** The ancient house of Breamore, burnt down 1856, has been rebuilt. The *Ch.*, with its Norm. doorway, is worth a visit. There was a priory of Augustinian canons here, founded by Baldwin de Redvers, in which Isabella de Fortibus, the last feudal possessor of the Isle of Wight, was buried.

Close to Breamore on the other side of the Avon is **Charford**, formerly *Cerdeford*, without doubt the Cerdicesford of the A.-S. Chronicle, the scene of the great battle fought by Cerdic and Cynric with the Romano-Britons A.D. 519, by which the Celtic power in Wessex was finally broken.

Proceeding down the Avon valley, we reach

13 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Fordingbridge Stat.** The town is ancient, and claims to be anterior to the Conquest. The single object of interest is the *Ch.*, which is large and worth examination. The nave is Early

Dec., with a good Perp. roof. Perp. clerestory windows seem to have been inserted in place of the original Dec. ones. There is a small *brass* to William Bulkeley (ob. 1568). The main chancel E.E., is divided from the N. chancel by Early Dec. pillars in groups of 4. The E. window is a triple lancet with singular flat headings to the lights. The roof of the N. chancel deserves especial notice. It is Perp., open, and much enriched. In the churchyard are 2 clipped yews of considerable size. (For the neighbourhood of Fordingbridge see "Handbook for Hants.")

Soon after leaving Fordingbridge the rly. enters Dorsetshire, and reaches

16 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Daggens Road Stat.**, and crossing Verwood Heath, reaches

19 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Verwood Stat.** This is the stat. for the little town of Cranborne.

Rt. 4 m. * **Cranborne** (Pop. 2395), an old market town on the old high-road from London to the west, giving the title of Viscount Cranborne to the Marquis of Salisbury. It is the "Chasetown" of "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," in which the inn is spoken of as the Fleur de Luce. It had anciently a monastery, founded as early as 980, but its name is best known in connection with **Cranborne Chase**, an extensive tract of woodland on the borders of Dorsetshire and Wiltshire. Cranborne is described by Leland as "a praty thorroughfair, and for one streat meatly well builded. There rennith a fleting bek thorrough it, and passid down

thorrough the streat self on the right hond." The *Ch.* is one of the largest and most dignified in the county, 141 ft. in length, built of flint and sandstone. There is a Norm. N. doorway. The fabric of the church is E.E.; the heavy square tower, 80 ft. high, is Perp. An indulgence was granted for its erection by Aiscough, Bishop of Salisbury, 1440. On the carved oak pulpit are the initials of Thomas Parker, abbot of Tewkesbury (d. 1421). There is a Purbeck marble font. At the W. end of the S. aisle is a stately Jacobean monument to the Hoopers, with recumbent effigies, and a tablet to the mother of Bp. Stillingfleet (d. 1647). The parish of Cranborne is one of the largest in the county, being 40 m. in circumference. A priory for Benedictines was founded here by Aylward de Meaux (c. 980), which in 1102, when Tewkesbury was rebuilt by Robert Fitz Hamon, saw all its monkssave three transferred to the new foundation, of which it became a cell. There is here a most charming ***manor-house**, a little W. of the church, belonging to Lord Salisbury, built probably temp. Henry VIII., and embellished by Robert Cecil, first Earl of Salisbury, temp. James I. It has added Jacobean porches N. and S., and over the latter are the figure of Justice with the scales and Mercy, a female figure, in allusion to the use of the Great Hall, which was the place of judicature where the hundred baronial and chase courts were held. At the E. end is the dungeon where offenders were often confined. The house has some fine carving internally; King

James' room contains an old bedstead and tapestry, and Queen Elizabeth's saddle is also in the house. Our Stuart sovereigns often stayed here when hunting in the Chase. James I. was here August 17th, 1609, and killed several bucks, and again August 11th, 1621, and dated hence three billets to his "sweete boyes" at Madrid, who were there for the Spanish match. Charles I. was here also on a very different business, October 14th, 1644, marching with his army "on foot, before the foot" over the downs.

Castle Hill, about 1 m. S.E., is a large and lofty mound, with semicircular rampart and deep fosse behind it, considered to be "unique of its kind in the county." A large tumulus of chalk in the centre, visible for many miles round, marks the grave of a favourite hunter of the late L. D. G. Tregonwell.

Edward Stillingfleet, Bishop of Worcester (d. 1699), was born (1635) close to Cranborne, on a small estate possessed by his family.

Cranborne Chase, so named from this town, was in early times an extensive territory, which comprised considerable parts of Dorset, Hampshire, and Wiltshire. Its limits were then Salisbury, Wilton, Tisbury, Kingsettle (near Shaftesbury), Blandford, Wimborne, Ringwood, Fordingbridge, and Downton, in circuit about 80 miles. For many years it was the property of the earls of Gloucester, but it belonged to the Crown in the reign of John, and from the time of Edward IV.

to that of James I. By the latter monarch it was granted to the Earl of Pembroke, from whose descendants it passed through several noble families to its late proprietor, Lord Rivers, to whom General Lane - Fox succeeded, assuming the name of Pitt-Rivers. Cranborne Chase, though disfranchised in 1830 as being a public evil, having been a nursery for all kinds of vice, profligacy, and immorality, as a harbour for smugglers, and converting the adjoining parishes into nests of deer-stealers, is still an extensive wooded tract, consisting principally of the Wiltshire hills on the border of this county. As late as 1828 it contained 12,000 deer, and as many as 6 lodges, each of which had its "walk," and was under the management of a ranger appointed by Lord Rivers. It presents many a charming scene. "Nothing," says the poet Bowles, "can be more wild than this leafy labyrinth, opening at times, and showing, through the hollies and thorns and hazels, some distant woodland hamlet in sunshine. On the bordering downs no object meets the eye, except here and there, at a distance, a small round clump of trees on summits, called by the people of the country appropriately *a hat of trees*." Over the hills of this forest ran the British **Ridge-way**. But the glory of the Chase has departed, and, to the regret of the lover of woodland scenery, large portions have been cleared and submitted to tillage. The ancient *Chase Prison* was at Cranborne.

Cranborne Chase was formerly famous for its deer-hunters. The

unlawful sport was practised by the gentlemen of the neighbourhood as a knight errantry. "From 4 to 20," we are told, "assembled in the evening, dressed in cap and jack, and quarter-staff with dogs and nets. Having set the watchword for the night and agreed whether they should stand or run if they should meet the keepers, they proceeded to the chase, set their nets, let slip their dogs to drive the deer into the nets, a man standing at each net to strangle the deer as soon as they were entangled. Frequent desperate, bloody battles took place; the keepers and sometimes the hunters were killed." In Hutchins' "Dorset" there is a print of a noted deer-hunter, in his costume, from a portrait painted by Byng, 1720.

1 m. S. is **Edmondsham**, with a Trans.-Norm. *Ch.*, which lost much of its original architecture in a restoration, 1862. The mansion-house of the Husseys stands near the church, a good specimen of the domestic architecture of the period, 1589.

2 m. S.W. is **Wimborne St. Giles's**, the seat of the Earl of Shaftesbury, and birthplace in 1621 of *Anthony Ashley Cooper*, the statesman and leading member of the Cabal ministry, created Baron Ashley 1661, and Earl of Shaftesbury 1672, and at a later date of the author of the "Characteristics," here educated by Locke, who came into his grandfather's family as doctor, 1666, and some years afterwards found a wife for his father. The house is a long, low, embattled pile, standing round a quadrangular court, and is chiefly Eliza-

bethan, built 1561, and partly rebuilt in 1661, and renovated by the late Earl. The E. wing is more ancient, and probably dates from the 16th century. It contains many interesting family pictures, including those of *Lord Chancellor Shaftesbury* in his robes of office, the second earl and his countess, by Sir Peter Lely, Squire Hastings, etc. The manor came into the possession of the Ashleys in the reign of Edward IV. The heiress of Sir Anthony, who was knighted at the siege of Cadiz, brought it to the Coopers of Rockborne, Hants. The river *Allen* flows through the park and past the pleasure-grounds, which possess some fine cedars, and contain a remarkable grotto constructed chiefly of Indian shells, some century and a half ago, at a cost of £10,000. In the kitchen-garden, according to the tradition, that homely but useful vegetable the cabbage was first grown in England. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1732, was further added to in 1887. It contains a fine crossed effigy of a knight in chain-armour, probably Sir John de Plecy (d. 1313); a stately Corinthian monument to Sir Anthony Ashley (d. 1627) and his wife, with recumbent effigies; also a monument to the author of the "Characteristics," the third Earl of Shaftesbury (d. 1712), on which an exquisite female statue, executed at Naples, represents "polite literature mourning the death of her most distinguished votary"; to the first earl (d. 1683), with a white marble bust; to the fourth earl (d. 1771), by Scheemakers; to the fifth earl, representing the Fates unwinding the thread of life; and many later

memorials to the same family. The W. window, designed by Sir E. Burne-Jones, is a memorial to the wife of the seventh earl.

The line runs over a wide, desolate tract of level moor, the peaty soil producing little but heath, ling, and gorse, and reaches

23 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **West Moors** Stat., where the Salisbury and Dorset line joins that from Southampton to Weymouth, midway between *Ringwood* ("Handbook for Hants") and

27 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Wimborne** Stat. (Rte. 13).

ROUTE 10.

SALISBURY TO SHAFTESBURY BY THE VALE OF CHALK.

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Salisbury.
4 m.	Stratford Tony.
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Bishopstone.
8 m.	Broad Chalk.
9 m.	Fifield Bavant.
12 m.	Ebbesborne Wake.
13 m.	Alvediston.
17 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Berwick St. John.
24 m.	Shaftesbury.

This road leaves Salisbury by Harnham Hill, from which there is a very fine view of the cathedral, and descends into the **Vale of Chalk**, through which runs the little river of **Ebele** or **Stopford Water**. The Roman road from Old Sarum to Dorchester traversed this vale, probably taking the line of an old British trackway.

3 m. **Combe Bissett**. The *Ch.*, cruciform, with aisles and a tower

over the S. transept, well built of stone, stands picturesquely on an eminence. In the nave are two Norm. arches. The E.E. font has been retouched.

[Below Combe Bissett are the villages of *Homington*, *Odstock*, *Nunton*. See Rte. 8.]

4 m. **Stratford Tony**, where is a small mean *Ch.*, taking its distinguishing name from the family of Toni, the founder of which, Ralph, came over with the Conqueror as standard-bearer, and fought at the battle of Hastings. Robert, the last baron, was at Caerlaverock 1300.

4½ m. **Bishopstone**. The *Ch.* will well repay a visit; it is cruciform, of some size and much interest. The chancel and S. transept are very good examples of Late Dec. (c. 1360), with fine vaulted roofs and rich flamboyant windows. Note the E. window, with its drip moulding continued up to the unglazed opening (a curved triangle foliated) which lights the roof, the side windows, of unusual length, the unique S. chancel door with its ogee crocketed canopy and vaulted recess, and the singular external cloister, or whatever else it is to be called, on the S. wall of the S. transept; it is part of the original structure, and the visitor may amuse himself with conjectures as to its purpose and intention, remembering, however, that the two tombs, of different dates, placed one upon the other inside it will afford him no clue, as they were only a few years ago removed to their present position from the interior of the church. The N. transept, though not equal to the S., contains some

features worth noticing, especially the rich tomb in the N. wall. Examine also the arch which opens into the S. transept, and the apparent remains of a Norm. arch above it. The chancel has fine sedilia. The nave is later and inferior. There is a small brass to John de Wykeham, presented to the rectory by William of Wykeham, 1379. The church has been restored in a careful and loving spirit, though perhaps not quite in accordance with the critical requirements of modern ecclesiology, by a former rector, the Rev. G. A. Montgomery (killed, 1842, by the fall of the unfinished vaulting of East Grafton Church), whose elaborate tomb, by Pugin, is in the S. wall of the S. transept; the carvings on the pulpit are said to have been brought by him from Spain. The church plate, presented by John Earle, successively Bishop of Worcester and Salisbury after the Restoration, and formerly rector of Bishopstone, is probably of Flemish manufacture. The parish takes its name from the bishops of Winchester, who were lords of the manor till the Reformation, when it passed into the hands of the present owners, the earls of Pembroke.

8 m. **Broad Chalk** has a large cruciform church, with a central tower and S. porch. The chancel and N. transept are E.E., the rest of the church of the 15th century. There are good E.E. sedilia in the chancel. A memorial window to Lord Herbert of Lea has been erected by his widow. Broad Chalke was the birthplace of John Bekinsel, a learned Wykehanist, a friend of

Leland, and author of a work on "Defence of the Supremacy of Henry VIII.," and for some years the residence of John Aubrey, the antiquary.

A recent incumbent, Dr. Rowland Williams, has left a name as a scholar and theologian.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. lies the little village of **Bower** or **Burgh Chalk**, till lately a chapelry to Broad Chalk. The *Ch.* is cruciform, with the tower to the S., and is a very interesting specimen of primitive E.E. The chancel was rebuilt, and an aisle and memorial window added, 1866, in memory of Lord Herbert of Lea, by his widow.

9 m. the church of **Fifield Bavant** is the smallest in the county, and one of the smallest in England. The parish derives its name from having originally contained five hides of land, and from the family Bavant, who were its Norm. owners.

The road passes through

12 m. **Ebbesborne** or **Ebelesborne Wake**, which takes its name from the Ebele brook. The *Ch.*, restored 1877, has a good W. tower, bearing the arms of the Wake family, the former owners.

13 m. **Alvediston**, lying in a deep hollow under the steep flank of Whitesheet Hill. The *Ch.* is cruciform, with tower at W. end. In the S. transept or Gawen's aisle an effigy in complete armour rests on an altar-tomb. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W. are the remains of **Norrington**, once the mansion of the Gavens, one of the oldest names in Wilts. Norrington was their seat from 1377 to 1658, when it passed to the Wyndhams. Its ancient im-

portance is attested by the remains of the former terraces and gardens, and the wreck of the old hall, which appears to have been built about the time of Richard II. "Norrington," writes Mr. Parker, "is a tolerably perfect manor-house of the 15th century, with the hall and porch perfect. The hall windows are good Perp., and the doorway of the porch has a fine set of mouldings with shafts and deep hollows." The rest is about the time of Elizabeth. The hall is divided into several rooms. There is a cellar with a good vaulted roof, and a so-called "banquet-chamber" with a fireplace of the date of Elizabeth.

The road passes under the high chalk down known as **Whitesheet Hill**, along the summit of which formerly ran the high London road, and reaches

$17\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Berwick St. John**, under **Winkelbury** (A.-S. Wincelbeorh, the corner fort), an entrenchment of $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres, girt by a single ditch and rampart, 39 ft. high. General Pitt-Rivers believes this to be pre-Roman. An Anglo-Saxon cemetery was found by him in it, from which 31 skeletons were removed. Beyond are the far-extending heights of **Cranborne Chase**. The *Ch.* is cruciform (restored 1861 by a former rector), with a well-designed low Perp. tower. The ceiling bears the Tudor rose and the arms of the Willoughby de Brokes, one of which family was rector here 1485-1506. In the S. aisle may be seen two monuments, with effigies in chain-armour. They are supposed to be those of Sir Robert Lucy, in the N. transept, and John de Hussey,

in the S. transept, Knights Templars in the reign of Edward I.

A former rector, Rev. John Gane, left a bequest, 1735, for ringing the great bell of the church at 8 o'clock every night for a quarter of an hour during the winter months to guide travellers over the Wiltshire downs. *Fern House*, the seat of Sir W. J. Grove, Bart., was rebuilt 1811. The estate has been in the family since 1563. *Rushmore* is the seat of Lieutenant-General Lane-Fox-Pitt-Rivers, F.R.S.

3 m. S. in Cranborne Chase is *Tollard Royal*.

Our route quits the Vale of Chalk, and leaving the **Donheads** and **Sticklepath Hill**, with the **Castle Rings** on the rt., enters Dorsetshire, and reaches

24 m. **Shaftesbury** (Rte. 12).

Ashcombe, 5 m. S.E. (in Cranborne Chase), an estate formerly of Lord Arundell, and now of Sir W. J. Grove, is a very romantic spot. It is in a deep circular dell, from the centre of which rises a small hill. Upon this isolated knoll stands a relic of the old mansion, in the midst of an amphitheatre of woods. The only outlet is by a steep road carried up the heights.

ROUTE 11.

SALISBURY TO WESTBURY
BY WILTON, HEYTESBURY,
AND WARMINSTER (LONG-
LEAT).

(G.W. Rly.)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Salisbury.
2½ m.	Wilton.
5½ m.	Wishford.
11¼ m.	Wylke.
14¼ m.	Codford.
17¼ m.	Heytesbury.
20¼ m.	Warminster.
24¼ m.	Westbury.

Leaving Salisbury, the G.W. Rly. runs side by side with the S.W. Rly. to Yeovil as far as

2½ m. **Wilton** Stat., where it crosses the Wylke, and continues up the valley of the river to the watershed at Warminster.

4½ m. rt. is **South Newton**, the *Ch.* restored by Lady Herbert of Lea.

5½ m. **Wishford** Stat. The village of mud-built thatched cottages is prettily wooded. The *Ch.* is rich in monuments worth notice, particularly the stately tomb of Sir Richard Grobham, steward of the Gorges family, of Longford, 1629, and of Thomas Bonham, 1473, a former lord of this manor, whose effigy is represented in the habit of a pilgrim. According to the absurd local legend, he was the father of seven children, who were all born at one birth, after his return from a seven years' pilgrimage to the Holy

Land, and were brought together to the christening in a sieve, which was hung up in the church as a memorial of the event. An unnamed female figure lies in a low recess in the N. wall.

To the l. rises the hill of

Grovely or **Graveling Wood**, formerly one of the largest woods in the county, and a forest as late as the reign of Elizabeth. It is remarkable for a number of ancient earthworks. On the down immediately opposite Wishford are **Grovely Works**, the remains of a British town, in a crescent form, extending a mile in length and occupying 60 acres; further to the W. (to the S. of Little Langford) are **Grovely Castle**, encircled by a single ditch and rampart, but, in the opinion of Sir R. C. Hoare, of no very high antiquity, and **East Castle**, to the S. of Steeple Langford, a work remarkable for its small size ($\frac{3}{4}$ acre) and for containing a central mound.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of East Castle are

Hanging Langford Camp, probably a British work, and **Bilbury Ring** (due S. of Wylve Stat.), now nearly destroyed, a farm having been built on the site. It was fortified by double and triple ramparts, and enclosed a still older work in its area of 17 acres. On the S. side of Grovely, on Barford Down, is another entrenched village, called **Hamshill Ditches**, and through the heart of the wood runs the Roman road from Old Sarum to Uphill, on the Bristol Channel; $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Old Sarum at the E. corner of Grovely Wood the pitched causeway is visible.

Grovely is the property of the Earl of Pembroke. "In old times the tenants and others who claimed custom in the wood used to go in a daunce to Salisbury Cathedral on a certain day, and there make their clayme in these words: 'Grovely, Grovely, and all Grovely.'" "The circuit of this wood," says Sir R. C. Hoare, "is an *iter* rich in food for the antiquary, and interesting to every eye that is not totally indifferent to the many varied and beautiful views which it continually affords."

A pleasant excursion for a pedestrian is from Wishford Stat. to ascend the downs to Grovely Works, and then follow the undulations of the downs, exploring the camps by the way, to Hanging Langford, or further, if he feels inclined; then to turn into Grovely and walk along the broad open drive to Wilton, and so back to Salisbury; the view of the cathedral and the surrounding country from the hill-side is very fine.

Just beyond Wishford, rt., the valley of the Winterbourne opens and affords a glimpse of

Stapleford, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Wishford Stat. N. The *Ch.* well deserves a visit. It is cruciform, and has a fine Norm. N. door and very good Norm. arcade within. The piscina and sedilia deserve notice. **Old Castle** is a moated site adjoining a meadow called *the Park*. For the villages up this stream, *Berwick St. James*, *Winterbourne Stoke*, *the Orchestons*, etc., see Rte. 6.

$7\frac{3}{4}$ m. close to the rly. rt., overshadowed with elms, is the

small Dec. church of **Little Langford**, restored by Lady Herbert, where the Norm. S. door, with a rude bas-relief, and a Jacobean tomb, deserve notice.

8 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Hanging Langford** is close to the line rt., and **Steeple** (or *Staple*, i.e., Market) **Langford** 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N. This *Ch.* contains a rich altar-tomb to the family of Mompesson, and a lively portraiture of the Rev. J. Collier, rector (d. 1635). In taking the chancel down lately a Purbeck marble slab with the figure of a man with a horn slung round him was found. In the troubles in Charles I.'s time the rector, the Rev. J. Collier, was ejected as "ignorant, scandalous, and inefficient," leaving his wife and eleven children without provision in a time of deep snow. They took shelter for six nights in a barn, and the children gathered sticks in Grovely Wood. Two of his sons joined in Penrudocke's abortive attempt; and, being taken, were sold as slaves in Jamaica.

11 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Wylze Stat.** There is a picturesque view of the wooded hill of Bathampton from the bridge over the river. *Wylze Ch.* was rebuilt 1844, but retains a fine E.E. E. triplet, and contains an oaken pulpit dated 1628, brought from Old Wilton Church. It has a low pinnacled tower.

On the old road from Salisbury to Warminster, immediately N., was the once celebrated *Deptford Inn*, the half-way house, now pulled down. The garden commands a pleasing view. In the hollow lies *Bathampton*, and on

the rt. a bold and lofty down rises abruptly from the road. 2 m. N.E., on the highway to Stonehenge and Amesbury, is

***Yarnbury Camp**, a very perfect and interesting work, placed on the summit of a solitary eminence of the great Plain, the undulating surface of which is seen from it in a panoramic view. It is circular, and of great size, the entrenchments being two banks and ditches, the inner about 50 ft. deep. The principal entrance faces the E., and is defended by a complicated outwork. Another entrance on the S. should be noticed for its complete preservation. E. of Yarnbury are **Steeple Langford Downs**, with singular and diversified earthworks and mounds, probably the sites of huts. On the 4th of October Yarnbury is the scene of an annual fair for the sale of sheep and colts. The old road from Salisbury to Bath (now but little used) skirted the camp on the E., and its course is still marked by many of the milestones. 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. W. is **Oldbury**, or **Codford Circle**, marking the summit of a hill by its earthen bank. The eye ranges over a wide uncultivated country.

1 m. S. of Wylze is **Bilbury Ring**, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. farther the British camp of **Hanging Langford** and the **Dinton Beeches**; and, about 2 m. towards Hindon, **Stockton Works**, the site of a British town, afterwards occupied by the Romans as a station on their road from Old Sarum. *Fonthill* is 10 m. distant.

Fisherton Delamere, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W., is so named after its ancient

lords, the Delameres of Nunney Castle, Somerset. *Fisherton House*, seat of G. R. Ryder, Esq., is said to occupy the site of their mansion. The remains of terraces are to be traced in the garden. The rly. continues up the valley, here broad and green, with the chalk hills on each side, to

11 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. **Stockton**. *Stockton House* (E. P. Tennant, Esq.) is a fine mansion embowered in woods. It was begun by John Topp in the reign of Elizabeth, and finished in that of James I., the arms of both these sovereigns appearing on the ceiling of the great bedroom. The exterior is rather plain, and the interior has been partly modernized; but most of the principal rooms retain their old wainscots, chimney-pieces, and ceilings. The drawing-room upstairs is a fine example of Elizabethan decoration. The manor of Stockton belonged in Alfred's days to a noble named Wulfhere, but for some act of disloyalty was forfeited to the Crown. Edward the Elder granted it to an Ethelwulf, who gave it to his wife, Deorwith, by whom it was bestowed on St. Swithin's, Winchester, and it was held by the Topps under that convent. The *Ch.* is Trans.-Norm., with an E.E. chancel, with E. triplet falsified by restoration, and Perp. clerestory. The chancel is separated from the nave by a wall pierced by a low doorway and two hagioscopes. The roof of the N. aisle is of cedarwood, presented by a former bishop of Salisbury. It contains more monuments than are usually found in a village church. There are no fewer than six in the chan-

cel, but none earlier than 1600, except a female effigy, her feet resting on a dog, found half buried in the S. wall under a monumental arch of the 14th century. In the N. aisle there is a fine canopied tomb, with recumbent effigies, to the builder of Stockton House (d. 1632) and his wife Mary, with other memorials of the Topps. In the S. aisle are an altar-tomb and other memorials of the families of Poticary and Greenhill. There is an almshouse founded by the same John Topp, 1641, a picturesque group of buildings round three sides of a court, completed by a coped wall and gateway. Stockton Farmhouse is an interesting house, built about the same time as the manor-house by Jerom Poticary, one of the family of rich clothiers settled here. It preserves a portion of an older half-timbered building.

14 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Codford** Stat. There are two parishes l.: the straggling village of **Codford St. Mary's** (the *Ch.*, nearly rebuilt 1843, has a tomb, with effigies, of Sir Richard Mompesson, a Norm. font and chancel arch, and a communion-table made out of the old pulpit of St. Mary's, Oxford); and the more compact one of **Codford St. Peter's**. The *Ch.* of the latter was practically rebuilt in 1864, when the fine Norm. chancel arch was replaced by the present construction. The rectory was given to St. John's College, Oxford, by Abp. Laud. It contains a good Norm. font, and in the chancel are some carved stones of very early Norm., or perhaps pre-Conquest, date.

About 1 m. to the rt. is a curious

earthwork, called **Oldbury**, or **Codford Circle**. It occupies the summit of a hill commanding a most interesting view. E. of Codford St. Mary's, on a projecting spur of the down, eight venerable yews mark the site of a hermitage founded by Henry de Mareys, 1317. S., on the rt. bank of the Wylye, lies the pretty little village of

Sherrington, remarkable for a moated mound, W. of the small *Ch.* (partly E.E., restored 1844), 100 ft. in diameter at top, on which stood a castle of the wealthy and powerful Giffards, whose property in Plantagenet times extended over many parishes in this county. Beyond Codford St. Peter's the valley expands considerably.

Boyton Manor (Edmund D. V. Fane, Esq., D.L., J.P., once occupied by H.R.H. the Duke of Albany) will be observed on the l. of Codford Stat. Here in the days of Henry II., and for many subsequent years, was the seat of the Giffards.

Boyton Church (St. Mary's), well restored by the late Prebendary Fane, deserves notice. It is a fine example of E.E. and Early Dec. The tower stands to the N., and has a very fine E.E. doorway. The S. or Lambert Chapel has some fine Dec. windows, especially that to the W. (a circle containing 3 triangles), two altar-tombs, one with the effigy of a cross-legged knight in chain-armour, Sir Alexander Giffard, the companion of William Longespée, the Crusader, and one of his knights in the fatal conflict of Mansoura, from which he es-

caped to fulfil the dying wishes of his friend; the other, without effigy, but richly adorned with canopied niches, perhaps to Lady Margaret, in whom the house of Giffard expired. A large slab of Purbeck marble, with the matrix of a brass in the S. chancel, on being removed, was found to cover a decapitated skeleton, probably that of the last male Giffard, beheaded at Gloucester for his share in the Earl of Lancaster's rebellion, temp. Edward II. The church was probably built by Bp. Giffard. There are good piscinæ and sedilia both in the chancel and S. chapel. The estate afterwards belonged to Maltravers, then to the Earl of Arundell, who (1572) sold it to Richard Lambert, alderman of London. The house was built by Thomas Lambert, 1618. The late owner was the distinguished botanist Mr. Bourke Lambert, who discovered on this estate two plants previously unknown to the British flora—*Carduus tuberosus* and *Centaurea nigrescens*, the former in *Great Ridgewood*—and here collected from all parts of the world a most valuable *Hortus siccus*, which consisted of more than 30,000 species. Between Boyton and Corton grounds the country-people point out a pit called *Chapel* or *Chettle Hole* as the spot where a church was once mysteriously engulfed. A little spring bubbles up from it. (*Cetel* is A.-S. for a caldron.) The *Corton Beech* is a tree 14 ft. in circumference. There is a *long barrow* near the village.

14 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. **Upton Lovel** bears the name of its ancient lords, the lords of Castle Cary, Somerset.

The small aisleless *Ch.*, with traces of Norm. work, contains the effigy of one, perhaps, of this family on an altar-tomb in his armour, and also a brass, the demi-figure of a priest (c. 1430), and a circular font. Here is an endowed grammar school. The Wylve is here spanned by an ingeniously constructed bridge, by J. Chapman, of Frome. Each parapet is formed by trussing a beam of red pine.

15½ m. **Knook Church**, has a blocked Norm. S. door with carved tympanum of interlacing beasts, and the capitals of a Norm. chancel arch.

On the downs above is an earthwork known as **Knook Castle**, which is connected with the **Old Ditch**, which, with some breaks of continuity, runs across Salisbury Plain from Westbury Leigh to Durnford. In its course are the remains of two British villages on Knook Down.

17¼ m. **Heytesbury Stat.** (Pop. 890).

The Anglo-Saxons called it *Hegeredesbyri*, which in Domesday Book the Norman clerk converted into *Hestrebe*. Once a parliamentary borough, it is now an inconsiderable place, and in 1832 it was disfranchised.

The property here, under various subdivisions of *East, West, and South Heytesbury*, belonged, from Henry II. to Richard II., to the families of Dunstanville, Montfort, Badlesmere, and Burghersh. They were then united, and from Richard II. to Henry VIII. were held by the elder house of Hungerford. In that reign it was forfeited by the attainder of Walter Hunger-

ford, who had been created "Lord Hungerford of Heytesbury." The Hungerfords possessed this place before they bought Farleigh Castle, and some of them preferred living here. Their house at Heytesbury has been long since taken down, but in the present offices still remains an old stone shield, bearing the arms of Courtenay impaling Hungerford. They were followed by the families of Wheeler, Moore, and Ashe. By marriage of the heiress of William Ashe, the estate passed in 1750 to Pierce A'Court, Esq., ancestor of the present owner, Lord Heytesbury.

The *Ch.* (restored by Butterfield, reopened 1867) was made collegiate by Jocelyn, Bishop of Sarum (c. 1165), with a dean and four prebendaries. It is cruciform, chiefly E.E. The nave was rebuilt in the Perp. style, probably by the Hungerfords (c. 1404). During the restoration the aisles of the choir have been rebuilt, the original pitch of the roofs restored, and the N. transept, which had been turned into a family vault, thrown open to the church. Across the arch is a stone screen with badges of the Hungerford family. A new font was given by Rev. R. Beadon. The E. window is internally a triplet, with only the centre lancet pierced. In the S. transept is a tablet to the memory of Mr. Cunnington, whose antiquarian researches formed the groundwork of Sir R. C. Hoare's "Ancient Wiltshire." He resided for many years at Heytesbury, where he died in 1810.

Heytesbury Hospital, a red-brick building, forming three sides of a square, originally founded for

twelve poor men and one woman, and a *custos*, by Walter, Lord Hungerford, Lord High Treasurer of England, who died in 1449, and his son, Robert, Lord Hungerford, and completed by his widow, Margaret, Lady Hungerford and Botreaux, is endowed with lands. The Hungerford arms are over the entrance. The *Parsonage Farm* contains a fine room of Jacobean date, now divided into two, with rich plaster ceiling and carved fireplace.

On the N. side of the town is **HEYTESBURY PARK**, the seat of Lord Heytesbury. Its woods clothe the base of Cotley Hill and sweep in dark plantations of fir to the neighbouring heights. The mansion is modern and perfectly plain, but it contains some fine pictures of the Italian, Spanish, French, and Flemish schools, particularly of the Spanish. In the **drawing-room**: *Guercino*: Genius of Painting. *Raphael*: Holy Family (belonged to Cardinal Mazarin), "an early and careful copy, somewhat hard in form and dark in colour."—*Waagen*. *Parmegiano*: Christ and St. John Baptist (belonged to Madame Muret). *Albano*: Cupid bending his bow, a copy from Correggio. *Teniers*: several. *Paul Veronese*: Moses in the Bulrushes; the Baptism, elevated in sentiment and powerful in colour. *Luca Giordano*: Philip II. examining the plan of the Escorial, a sketch for the picture in the Escorial, rich composition, conceived as a landscape. *J. Juannes*: good copy of the Ecce Homo by Roger Van der Weyden the younger; (2) Mater Dolorosa,

"of portrait-like but noble character, of pale tone and intensely moving expression, not a copy, one of the best specimens of the early Spanish school I have ever seen."—*Waagen* (companion picture). *B. Luini*: the Baptism. "Among the few pictures on a small scale by the master, this is the most beautiful I know."—*Waagen*. *B. Schidone*: Virgin and Child, with St. John and Joseph. *Murillo*: St. John and the Lamb. *Zurbaran*: two masterly pictures of SS. Jerome and Benedict, saints, life-size. *Guercino*: the Magdalen, "of unusual nobility of form and expression." In the **ante-room**: *G. Poussin*: a grand mountainous landscape. *Zurbaran*: St. Francis; (2) a saint. In the **dining-room**: *A. Cano*: the Magdalen. *Van Helmont*: May Day; Condemnation of a Deserter. *Ribera*: St. Jerome. *G. Romano*: Marriage of St. Catherine. *Murillo*: Virgin and Child, with SS. Joseph and John. *N. Poussin*: View of Ponte Molle; (2) Herminia seeking refuge with the Shepherds. *Claude*: two small landscapes, "delicate and clearly coloured works of his best time." *S. Rosa*: portrait of a man. *Zurbaran*: the Infant Christ on an ass, with Joseph and St. John, "coarsely realistic in conception, but the heads animated and of masterly treatment." *C. Cignani*: Charity. *Domenichino*: a landscape, with St. John preaching. *Vanni*: Flight into Egypt.

In the **drawing-room** is preserved Charles I.'s cap, given by him to Henry Vernon, Esq., of Farnham, at whose house he passed the night on his way to Carisbrooke.

The **library** contains family portraits of the Ashes and A'Courts; on the **staircase** are portraits of the Worsleys and Holmes from Appuldurcombe, in the Isle of Wight.

At **Sutton Veny** (miscalled *Fenny*), about 1½ m. from *Heytesbury Stat.*, is an old parsonage, in which may be recognised the remains of a house of the 14th century in the windows of the hall and buttery-hatch. A new *Ch.* has been built at the expense of the Everett family by Mr. J. L. Pearson, with a stone vaulted chancel and a lofty spire, which will repay a visit. The old church is preserved as a ruin.

At *Greenhill*, in this parish, the seat of Colonel Everett, now occupied by H. W. Harris, Esq., are some excellent pictures. *Paul Potter*: a landscape with cattle and sheep, of great power both in execution and colour. *J. Van Ostade*: a village scene, with travellers, "a rich composition, in a deep glowing tone, and of solid impasto."—*Waagen*. *Jan Steen*: a domestic after-dinner scene in a garden bower, the dessert on the table, one of the best pictures of the master. *B. Denner*: portrait of an old woman, of which there are several repetitions. *Teniers*: a Dispute at Cards. *Van der Helst*: portrait of a young girl. *Ucchterfeld*: two girls at the piano, "a charming picture by this second-rate master."—*Waagen*. Of these Dr. Waagen says, "Some would take an honourable place even in the largest gallery."

Imber, 5 m. N. of Heytesbury, is entombed among the chalk

hills, in one of the most lonely situations conceivable. A local rhyme runs—

"Imber, on the down,
Four miles from any town."

It can only be approached by a trackway across the turf, and is almost inaccessible in winter. The little *Perp. Ch.*, which suffered restoration in 1831, contains two cross-legged effigies, perhaps of the family of Rous. The font is Early Norm., with herring-bone work round the top.

At Heytesbury the valley has expanded to a considerable width, the downs sweep to it with their grassy sides in bold slopes, and the singular eminence of **Cley Hill** rises midway where it opens on the plain at Warminster.

Cotley Hill rises immediately above Heytesbury, and commands one of the finest panoramic views in the county. It is remarkable for a tumulus crowning the very summit, and formerly encircled by a low bank and inner ditch, which in part remain to the present day.

Knock Castle is another ancient work, about 2 m. N.E. of the town. It is a single-ditched entrenchment, supposed to have been originally a British village, afterwards occupied by the Romans as a summer camp, British and foreign pottery, native implements, and Roman coins having been found in it. To the N. of it are remains of another British settlement, and the **Old Ditch**, which runs for 11 m. across Salisbury Plain in the direction of Tilshead and Orcheston. The site of these villages, says Sir R. C. Hoare, "is decidedly marked

by great cavities and a black soil; and the attentive eye may easily trace out the lines of houses, and the streets, or rather the hollow ways conducting to them." Long barrows are very numerous on these hills.

Proceeding on our route:—

Rt. ***Scratchbury**, a magnificent and well-preserved specimen of a British camp, supposed to derive its name from the Celtic word *crech* or *crechen*, a hill. The area (blue in summer, with campanula and scabious) occupies 40 acres. It is of an irregular form, following the outline of the hill, encompassed by a ditch and rampart in places 66 ft. in height. The entrances are three, the principal one, opening to the S.E., being fortified with outworks. Within the area are an inner camp and several tumuli. The railroad runs at the foot of the hill. Separated from this work by a deep valley is the camp of

* **Battlesbury**, another entrenchment attributed to the Britons. You ascend to it by a giants' stairway, the slope of the intervening valley being formed in a series of parallel terraces, called "lynchets," following the ascent as exactly as if made by the hand of man. The precise origin of these "lynchets" (or "lanchardes," as sometimes pronounced) is not known. That cattle could have made such accurately parallel and regular walks is impossible. These certainly have (as many lynchets have) more the appearance of having been produced by the action of water. It is undoubtedly to the gradual effect of tides

in some ancient geological sea that the downs themselves owe the graceful slopes which they present. Some harder layer of the chalk has resisted that action, and hence possibly these singular projecting banks. It is, however, much more probable that they were cultivation terraces constructed by the inhabitants of the hill-forts in the neighbourhood of which, as in this instance, they are found. A full discussion of the question will be found in Gomme's "Village Community." On the S. and S.E. the height and abruptness of the hill render this camp almost inaccessible; on the N. it is more easily approached, and there the defences are double. The area encircled is more than 23 acres, and the rise of the ramparts 60 ft. In the view, which is most extensive, the pretty knoll of *Cophead*, the singular outlying eminence of *Cley Hill*, the town of *Warminster*, and woods of *Longleat*, are interesting features.

Near the hamlet of **Boreham**, 2 m. W., remains of an outwork called the **Berries**, a corruption of "Bury," mark the site of a Roman station on the road from Old Sarum to Bath. Pottery and numerous coins have been found on the spot, and at **Pitmead**, lower down the river, the tessellated pavements of two villas. The road is supposed to have proceeded down the valley as far as Stapleford, and thence across the downs to Old Sarum.

200 yards N. of Boreham is the **King Barrow**, so called as one of the largest in Wiltshire. It is 206 ft. in length, 56 in width, and 15 in height. It was opened

in 1800; when two human skeletons and the bones of a horse, together with the horns of a stag, the tusks of a boar, and fragments of pottery, were found in it.

20 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Warminster Stat.*, overshadowed by the heights of *Arn Hill* and *Cophead* rt.

★ **WARMINSTER** (Pop. 5600), the seat of quarter sessions, visitations, etc., with a Saturday market, to which the ready-money dealing in corn and a considerable malting business give importance.

It is a place of great antiquity, said to derive its present name from a "minster" or church which stood on the banks of the *Were*. The site of this ancient church is traditionally supposed to have been at a place called the Nunnery, and there is a so-called *Nuns' Path*, a track ascending the neighbouring hill; but there is no record of any monastic foundation having existed here. At the period of the Conquest, Warminster belonged to and was held by the Crown; but the tenant under the Crown held the manor by the service of providing the King and his suite with one night's lodging when they visited the neighbourhood. This right was claimed in 1663 by Charles II., and paid by Sir James Thynne of Longleat, and almost in our own days by George III., who, with the Queen and princesses, was entertained by the lord of the manor of Warminster at Longleat.

The Mauduits were lords of Warminster from Henry I. to Richard II.

Two of the royal regiments, under Kirke and Trelawney, were posted at Warminster in 1688, while Churchill and his chief accomplices were at Salisbury.

"All was ripe for the execution of the long-meditated treason. Churchill advised the King (James II.) to visit Warminster, and inspect the troops stationed there. James assented. The coach was at the door of the bishop's palace at Salisbury, when a violent bleeding at the nose compelled him to postpone his journey."—*Macaulay*.

Warminster is a clean, airy town, with one long street of white stone houses. It stands in a beautiful country, situated at the entrance of a valley under the escarpment of the downs, which here expose their flanks in long perspective, or rise from the plain in isolated knolls.

The cruciform *Ch.* possesses little interest. It has a low, pinnacled central tower. The S. or Lady Chapel was built by the Mauduits temp. Henry VII. In 1626 an order was made to repair the church, "which weeps many a fresh tear for her decayed house, especially when the wind is in the west." It underwent a destructive restoration in the taste of the day in 1723. The Chapel of *St. Lawrence*, on the S. side of the principal street, was a chantry founded temp. Edward I. by two sisters named Hewitt, and bought by the townsmen at the Reformation. It has been rebuilt, with the exception of the Late Dec. tower, crowned with a spirelet.

The *Town Hall*, built by the Marquis of Bath from designs by Blore in the Jacobean style, 1830, contains courts for the quarter sessions and other county business. There are other well-designed buildings of public

utility, as Savings Bank, National Schools, etc.

The *Free School* was founded by Thomas, Lord Weymouth, 1707. Bp. Huntingford was one master of it, and at a later period Dr. Arnold was a pupil here, under Dr. Griffith. He "long retained a grateful remembrance of the miscellaneous books to which he had access in the school library at Warminster, and when, in his professorial chair, he quoted Dr. Priestley's 'Lectures on History,' it was from his recollection of what he had read there when he was eight years old."—*Stanley's* "Life of Arnold." Hampden, Bishop of Hereford, was also educated at Warminster by the then vicar.

Among places to be visited are *Cley Hill* and the camps of *Scratchbury* and *Battlesbury*, and, by the angler, *Sheerwater* (A.-S. *scir*, clear), rt. of the road to Longbridge Deverel, where there is excellent fishing. It is a pretty little lake of 45 acres deeply embosomed in wood, and belongs to the Marquis of Bath.

The conspicuous barrow on the wooded knoll of **Cophead**, close to the stat. N., was opened by Sir R. C. Hoare, who found in it a skeleton with beads and flints, and the horns of deer. There are earthworks on Arn Hill, the adjacent eminence. In Southleigh Wood, S. of Warminster, there is a small square earthwork, called **Robin Hood's Bower**.

At **Corsley**, W. of Warminster, the manor-house, near the church, now a farmhouse, was the dower-house of the widow of Sir John

Thynne, who married Sir Carew Raleigh, brother of Sir Walter. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1833.

The church of **Upton Scudamore**, 2 m. N., is E.E., and possesses a font and porch of the Norm. period. It also contains two mutilated effigies of the Scudamores.

Cley Hill. There are really two hills, but the principal one may be climbed on the way to Longleat. Turning off to the rt., $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. of level road and another $\frac{1}{2}$ m. of field-path will bring you to the foot of it. It is so singularly shaped as almost to appear at a distance artificial, but it is an isolated outlying member of the chalk range, and is 900 ft. high above low-water mark at Bristol. A bank and a ditch of great antiquity encircle it midway, and at the top, which commands a view as extensive as it is beautiful, are two barrows. The larger one, when opened, presented ears of wheat still recognizable, charred wood, and broken pottery; the other showed decided indications of burnt bones which had been previously disturbed. A beacon was set upon Cley Hill at the time of the Spanish Armada. On the S. the eye ranges over the woods of Longleat, on the E. along the boundary of Salisbury Plain, and on the W. over a cultivated country to the distant heights about Bath and the indented line of the Mendips. Cley Hill is thought by some antiquaries to have been the "*Æcglea*" where Alfred halted one night on his way to fight the battle of "Ethandun," supposing that place to have been Edington, a few miles off

The chief point of interest near Warminster is * ★ **LONGLEAT**, the seat of the Marquis of Bath, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant. The entrance of the domain is $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the house. After entering, the road rises for 1 m. between wooded and ferny slopes to the boundary of the Home Park, beyond the gate of which another drive to the l. leads to the point called **Heaven's Gate**, where the traveller beholds spread out below a forest region. From this spot the house is well seen, standing in the foreground of the wide landscape, and in almost the lowest part of the fine domain, of that mixed Italian and English style which prevailed at the end of the 16th century. Its venerable fronts of lichen-stone are pierced by numerous large windows, and are ornamented with pilasters and cornices; and on the roof are turrets and colossal statues. The flower-gardens lie at the N. and E. sides of the house, divided from the Deer Park, a noble slope of lawn and wood, by a large sheet of water. The stream which feeds this gave the original name to this place.

Originally a priory was built where the house now stands; there was a mill close by, to which the water was brought by a long *leat*, or watercourse, from Horningsham.

The priory, a very small one, founded by Sir John Vernon (c. 1270), was of the Augustinian order, and was dedicated to St. Radegund. It was dissolved 1529, and sold by the Crown to Sir John Horsey, of Clifton Maybank, and by him (1540) to Sir John Thynne, who owed his advancement to Protector Somerset, with

whom he was imprisoned in the Tower. He escaped his patron's fate, and was made Comptroller to the Princess Elizabeth in Mary's reign. Of John of Padua, as architect of Longleat, nothing is known. What is known is that Sir John Thynne, with local masons, built a fine house, which was partly burnt in April, 1567. From 1568 to his death (1580) he was engaged on the present house, assisted by Robert Smithson, who built Wollaton, Notts, and died 1614. Sir James, the fourth owner, employed Sir C. Wren to carry on the work. By him certain staircases were erected, and a principal doorway, since removed to a schoolhouse at Warminster. In 1670 the estates came to Sir James's nephew, "Tom of Ten Thousand," the hero of the "hospitable treats" of Dryden's "Absalom and Achitophel," the entertainer of Monmouth in his western progress 1680, and second husband of the very youthful heiress Lady Elizabeth Percy. Thomas Thynne was shot by Count Konigsmark in Pall Mall, and buried in the S. aisle of Westminster Abbey. On his death Longleat passed to his second cousin, created first Viscount Weymouth (1682), "a person of strict honour, purity, and integrity," the college friend of Thomas Ken, Bishop of Bath and Wells, to whom, after his deprivation, Longleat afforded an asylum, where for twenty years he experienced the untiring kindness of his early companion. On Lord Weymouth's death without male issue, the mansion passed to his great-nephew, the second viscount, who, towards the end of his life, lived in the manor-house at Horningsham. The third Viscount Weymouth, created Marquis of Bath, added much to the beauty of the domain by forming the "pleasure-ground"

and gardens under the direction of the celebrated "Capability" Brown. Before that time the gardens had been laid out in the formal Dutch style.

"Longleat is one of the largest as well as one of the most beautiful palaces in England of its day. Far greater purity pervades its classical details than in most of the buildings of its age. It consists of three stories, each ornamented with an order, the details throughout being elegant, though not rigidly correct."—*Fergusson*. The projections that break the façade and the large mullioned windows give the whole "a cheerful, habitable look, eminently suitable to a country residence of an English nobleman." The N. or garden front is due to Jeffrey Wyatt, better known as Sir J. Wyatville. The length of the chief front is 220 ft., of the flanks 180 ft.

The interior of the house presents a series of grand apartments, remodelled by Sir J. Wyatville (c. 1800), and hung with a collection of paintings, chiefly limited to portraits, but interesting from the celebrity of the persons whose likenesses they preserve. The visitor is first ushered into the **hall**, a lofty room with noble wooden roof, a screen supporting a gallery, and surmounted by the arms of Thomas Ratcliffe, Earl of Sussex, the Protector Somerset (in the middle), and W. Cecil, Lord Burghley; below are various shields of the alliances of the Thynne family. At the other end of the hall is the shield of Savile, Earl of Halifax, and over a door, Devereux, Earl of

Essex. On the walls are antlers of the stag and large hunting pictures by *Wootton*, containing portraits of the second Lord Weymouth, his friends and servants. From this apartment the visitor will be conducted through the different rooms in the following order:—

The **lower corridor**, furnished with ebony chairs, cabinets, etc. To l. and rt. are portraits of Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, and Robert Devereux, second Earl of Essex. In the *western* half are—S. wall, Lady Lansdowne (mother of second Viscount Weymouth), *Kneller*; the second viscount and his lady: the W. end, the second Sir J. Thynne and his lady; Charles Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. On the N. wall, Grace, Countess Granville, Edward, Earl of Jersey, both *Kneller*. In the *eastern* half are—S. wall, Lady Covert, *Jansen*; Sir Walter Covert, *Mytens*; Lady Mary Thynne, *Lely*; Lady Isabella Thynne, *Dobson*; and the two wives of Sir Thomas Thynne, *Mytens*. On the N. wall, Sir James Thynne, *Dobson*; and Sir Thomas Thynne, his father, *Mytens*.

The **south library**: portraits of Sir H. F. Thynne, George Granville (Lord Lansdowne), Thomas Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton, Thomas Seymour, Lord Sudeley, *Holbein*; Henry VIII., *ditto*; one unknown; Henry Rich, Earl of Holland, Edward Sackville, fourth Earl of Dorset, *Jansen*; Lord Keeper Coventry, *ditto*; Lucius Cary, second Viscount Falkland, the Protector, Duke of Somerset, *Holbein*; first Earl of Shaftesbury, Bp. Ken,

Lely; first Viscount Weymouth, *ditto*.

Drawing-room: two camp scenes, *Pinturichio*; Madonna and Child, *Ghirlandaio*; St. Katharine and St. Lucia, *Dosso Dossi*; Clelia crossing the Tiber, *Andrea Martegna*; two children of Sir John Thynne, head of St. Michael, *Raffaelle*.

Long saloon: a unique Florentine cabinet of coral, surmounted by a clock. There are also some buhl cabinets, and a timepiece which belonged to Louis XIV.

The **billiard-room**: Thomas, second Marquis of Bath, *Pickers-gill*; Frances, Duchess of Richmond (d. 1639), *Vandyck*; the Marchioness of Bath, *Watts*.

The **dining-room**: Thomas, first Marquis of Bath, Lord Keeper Coventry, first Viscount Weymouth, first Viscountess Weymouth, second Viscount Weymouth, his lady, Sir John Thynne, founder of Longleat (d. 1580), Sir John Coventry, *Dobson*; Sir Egremont Thynne, Sir James Thynne, Thomas Thynne, Esq. (murdered in Pall Mall, 1682), Henry Coventry, Esq., Sir H. F. Thynne, fourth Viscount Torrington, Lady Lansdowne (same as in corridor), Lady Isabella Thynne (*ditto*), James Thynne, Esq., Duchess of Portland, and the present Marquis of Bath. The sideboard is of carved ebony.

The **staircase**, which, with the upper corridors, was constructed by Wyatville: the Lion Hunt, *after Rubens*; Bear-hunting, Stag-hunting, *Snyders*; Sir Walter Raleigh, *Zuccherò*; Sir Henry Sydney, George Villiers, second Duke of Buckingham,

Lady Arabella Stuart, *Van Somer*; Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, and his page, *Zuccherò*; Henry Fitzalan, Earl of Arundell, *Holbein*; James, Duke of York, Countess of Nottingham, Sir Richard Gresham, Charles II., and Queen Catharine of Portugal.

On **landing-place**: Charles I. when Prince of Wales, Henry IV. of France, *Piombino*.

Upper corridor, west: on S. wall, Earl of Arlington, *Lely*; Earl of Nottingham, Lord Keeper, *Lely*; on N. side, Thomas Thynne, Esq., Duke of Bedford, father of Lord John Russell. *East*—N. wall, William, Duke of Hamilton, Henrietta Maria, Charles I., Thomas Wentworth, Earl of Strafford; S. wall, Abp. Laud and Bp. Juxon. Here also are some fine ebony cabinets and antique furniture.

Among other pictures are Earl Russell when young; William Seymour, Marquis of Hertford; the second Marchioness of Bath and children; Essex Rich, Countess of Nottingham; Lady Margaret Harley; old view of Longleat; Henry, Prince of Wales, Count and Countess Tekeli; Sir Theodore Mayerne; Viscount Dundee; Thomas Cavendish, the navigator; three children of Charles I., etc.

The domestic chapel (consecrated 1684) is plain, but its windows contain some old German glass.

It has been long and generally supposed that *all* Bp. Ken's library is here. That is not the case; there is only a very small part of it at Longleat. His library was bequeathed to his relatives, subject to the selection of any

works that were not already in the library of his friend and protector Lord Weymouth.

There is an approach to Longleat House from the S., on the Horningsham side, through a handsome arched gateway, and by a straight drive of nearly a mile in length, skirted by ancient elms, and bounded on one side by a pleasure-ground and on the other by the water. The highly decorated and stately mansion forms an appropriate finish to the vista. Looking *from* the house, the view on this side is terminated by the bold heights of *Bidcombe Hill*, otherwise called *Brimsdon* or *Cold Kitchen Hill*. In the woods is to be found the Weymouth pine, introduced from North America by the first Lord Weymouth, and first planted by the Duchess of Beaufort in the grounds of Badminton, in 1705, and soon afterwards in considerable numbers at Longleat. The woods and plantations cover 2000 acres. S.W. of the park, on rising ground, with an extensive view, is

Woodhouse, now a farm, on the site of a castellated house of the Vernons and Stantors, temp. Charles I., belonging to William, brother of Lord Arundell of Wardour, when it was stormed by the forces of the Parliament. According to a local tradition, Lady Arundell, upon finding its capture inevitable, contrived to escape in a coffin. The place was subsequently retaken by the Royalists, under Sir Francis Dodington when twelve prisoners, most of them clothiers, were hanged on one tree, and buried under a tumulus, which is still

pointed out as their grave. The square outline of the courtyard is marked by a high bank, but nothing remains except a fragment of wall.

Beyond the S. gate of Longleat is the hamlet of **Horningsham**, in a most picturesque district, resembling the best parts of Devonshire, and on the slope of the hill its little well, covered with masonry, partly old, and bearing the inscription, "O ye wells, bless the Lord. With Thee is the spring of life." The *Ch.* was rebuilt, save the tower, in 1844 by Harriet, Marchioness of Bath, at an expense of more than £5000. To this church Bp. Ken was accustomed to repair during his residence at Longleat. Adjoining the church is a house erected by the Arundells after the destruction of Woodhouse. It contains two chimney-pieces that probably came from Woodhouse. That in the upper room is sculptured with their arms, and reaches from the floor to the ceiling. In this village is the oldest Dissenting chapel in England, dated 1566. It is said to have been erected by some workmen brought from Scotland by Sir John Thynne, the ancestor of the Marquis of Bath, for the purpose of building his mansion at Longleat. From Horningsham a lane threads a winding valley between golden furze and broom in the direction of

Bidcombe (876 ft.), **Brimsdon** (933 ft.), and **Cold Kitchen** (844 ft.) **Hills**, heights remarkable not only for beauty, but for numerous vestiges of their ancient inhabitants, and for a fine view. On a bright clear day even the

Welsh mountains are visible; but the prospect towards the S.W. forms the charm of the landscape, the downs sweeping to a distance in bays and promontories, the fine outliers of *Bradley Park Knoll* and *Long Knoll* giving character to the scenery. Towards the S. *Alfred's Tower* at Stourhead is a conspicuous object; and on the N. lies the park of Longleat. Between Bidcombe and Cold Kitchen is a square earthwork. The curious name *Cold Kitchen* is supposed to be a corruption of *col crechen*=the chief summit (Celtic).

Maiden Bradley, W. of Brimsdon, and on the road from Frome to Shaftesbury, was in early times the site of a hospital founded temp. Stephen, by Manasses Biset, for leprous women, with a prior and some seculars to manage for them. It was afterwards made a monastery of Augustines. A small portion still exists incorporated with a farmhouse to the N.E. of the village. New Mead, in the parish of Maiden Bradley, was the birth-place of Edmund Ludlow, the Parliamentary general, 1620. The situation is beautiful. The village occupies high ground, but is surrounded by the more elevated and isolated hills **Brimsdon Long Knoll** and **Bradley Park Knoll**. The view from Long Knoll is panoramic, and surpasses that from Bidcombe Hill. *Park Knoll* is so called as being the ancient deer-park of *Bradley House*, the seat of the Duke of Somerset. A visitor to this village should notice an old house, formerly an inn, the Somerset Arms, but now stores,

which contains a fine fireplace, and is supposed to have belonged to the Ludlows mentioned above. There is in this parish a favourite spot for a view called "Kate's Bench," where it is said one of the leprous maidens used always to resort; but the old name is only Gate-bench.

The *Ch.*, which is Dec., has lost much of its interest from restoration. It has a Purbeck marble Norm. font, and contains a monument to Sir Edward Seymour, Speaker of the House of Commons in 1672, who died 1707. Maiden Bradley came into the possession of the Seymours in the reign of Henry VIII. In a line between Brimsdon and Warminster are five small villages, all distinguished by the name of

Deverel (commonly, but very doubtfully, said to mean *Dive-rill*, and to be so called from a stream, one of the sources of the Wylye, which *dives* underground near one of its sources at Kilmington).

The *Ch.* of **Kingston Deverel**, which is modern, in a good style of Dec., preserves its Dec. S. arcade and its towers between the chancel and the nave. It contains a fine male effigy of E.E. character, to which a new head has been added. Over the S. door is a "vesica" studded with ball-flower, vouched for as ancient, but with a very modern look.

Monkton Deverel Ch. has been rebuilt, with the exception of the tower. It has a plain Norm. font.

Brixton Deverel, says Hoare, "was undoubtedly the Petra Ægbryhti, 'Ægbryht's Stone,' mentioned by Asser as the spot where Alfred halted for one night on his march towards the Danes." A different derivation from that adopted by Hoare is suggested by Domesday, where we find one Brictric named as its lord. The name would then be "Brictric's Town." The church has been much spoilt by restoration, but preserves a Trans. chancel arch with clustered shafts. The manor-house almost touches the E. end of the church.

Hill Deverel was for some time the residence of the Ludlows, to one of whom there is a fine old monument in the church. The church itself is modern and ugly. To the E. of the church is the manor-house of the Ludlows.

Longbridge Deverel derives its name from a bridge supposed to have been built by the abbots of Glastonbury, its former lords. The church, which has a Norm. arcade on the N. side of the nave, has been extensively restored in the Dec. style, and has a Perp. N. aisle and W. windows. The old altar-slab is still in use. The carved seats are good examples of the last century. The church is the burial-place of the Thynnes, and contains among their monuments one to the builder of Longleat. S. of the church is a picturesque group of almshouses.

Lastly in this description of the environs of Longleat may be mentioned two small circular earthworks just N. of the park,

Roddenbury and **Hales Castle**, both on *Roddenbury Hill*.

Proceeding on our route from Warminster, we reach at

24 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Westbury Junction**
Stat. (Rte. 4).

ROUTE 12.

SALISBURY TO YEOVIL BY
DINTON, TISBURY (WARD-
DOUR CASTLE, FONTHILL,
HINDON), SEMLEY (SHAF-
TESBURY), GILLINGHAM
(MERE, STOURHEAD), TEM-
PLECOMBE, MILBORNE
PORT, AND SHERBORNE.

(*L. & S.W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	London.
83 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Salisbury.
86 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Wilton.
91 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Dinton.
96 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Tisbury.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	Tisbury.
2 m.	Wardour.
<hr/>	
	Tisbury.
2 m.	Fonthill.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Tisbury.
101 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Semley.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	Semley.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Shaftesbury.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Semley.
105 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Gillingham.
<hr/>	
ROAD.	Gillingham.
4 m.	Mere.
<hr/>	
RAIL.	Gillingham.
112 m.	Templecombe.
114 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Milborne Port.
118 m.	Sherborne.
122 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Yeovil Junction.
124 m.	Yeovil.

From Salisbury the line runs side by side with that of the

Great Western to Westbury as far as

86 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. (from London) **Wilton** (Rte. 8). The rly. continues up the valley of the Nadder, with a range of high bare chalk downs to the S. dividing it from the *Vale of Chalk*. This range is diversified with earthworks, and terminates in the abrupt slope of *Whitesheet Hill* above *Donhead*. The line passes

87 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. **Burcombe**. The E. end of the chancel of the little *Dec. Ch.* has the long and short quoins characteristic of what is called pre-Conquest work.

89 m. l. **Barford St. Martin**. The *Ch.* is cruciform without aisles. A curious effigy in a winding-sheet lies under an arch S. of the altar. Immediately to the N. rises **Grovely Wood**, in which are the earthworks known as **Grovely Works** and **Hamshill Ditches**, the remains of British villages. 1 m. S.W. is **Hurdcott House**, the residence of the Powells, a Jacobean house (c. 1631); its terrace commands a pleasing view of the Nadder, which flows through the park.

90 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. rt. lies **Baverstock Church** (St. Edith's), and a little further N. the village of the same name.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. is **Compton Chamberlayne House** (Charles Penruddocke, Esq., D.L., J.P.), to whose family it has belonged for 300 years.

At the time of the usurpation by Cromwell, the owner was Colonel John Penruddocke, who lost his life in an unsuccessful attempt to raise the country in favour of the

lawful prince. In the early morning of the 11th of March, 1655, Penruddocke, in company with Sir Joseph Wagstaff and other adherents of the King, to the number of 200 horsemen, rode into Salisbury and, seizing in their beds the High Sheriff and the judges, who were then holding the assizes, proclaimed Charles II. But the boldness of this measure failed to produce the desired effect. The citizens remained passive, and, after waiting some hours in the expectation of their rising, the discomfited Royalists were fain to beat a retreat. The country had, however, been alarmed, and a troop of horse, galloping from Andover in pursuit, captured Penruddocke near South Molton, in Devonshire. He was tried with his companions at Exeter, and condemned to be beheaded, a sentence which was soon carried into execution. On ascending the scaffold he exclaimed, "This, I hope, will prove like Jacob's ladder; though the feet of it rest upon the earth, yet I doubt not but the top of it reacheth to heaven. The crime for which I am now to die is loyalty, in this age called high treason." Insignificant as this rising was, its consequences were grave. "This little rebellion," remarks Hallam, "meeting with no resistance from the people, but a supineness equally fatal, was soon quelled. It roused Cromwell to secure himself by an unprecedented exercise of power. He knew that want of concert or courage had alone prevented a general rising. Dividing the kingdom into eleven districts, he placed at the head of each a major-general as a sort of military magistrate, responsible for the subjection of his prefecture."

Compton House contains the portrait of the unfortunate colonel,

together with those of many members of his family, some by *Lely* and *Vandyck*. They are in frames carved by Grinling Gibbons, and fill the panels of an old oaken chamber. The laced cap worn by him at his execution, showing the gash of the axe, is also preserved here. There is a picture representing an unknown person, perhaps Sir John Davies, handsomely dressed in the style of Elizabeth's reign, but whose right hand is withered. In the upper part of the painting is the single word *Utinam*, ("Oh that !").

The park covers both sides of a pretty wooded glen in the greensand formation, with a large sheet of water in the hollow. The house has lately been much enlarged. The adjoining *Ch.*, generally of the Late Dec. period, with remains of the Norm. and E.E. styles, contains a tablet of white marble commemorating the Penruddockes who have been buried here since 1598.

91 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Dinton** Stat.

Edward Hyde, Earl of Clarendon, Lord Chancellor, and historian of the Great Rebellion, was born here Feb. 18th, 1609, in the old rectory-house, now pulled down and a school built on the site. But the tradition of Clarendon's birthplace has been transferred to a picturesque farmhouse E. of the church. He lived for some time at Hatch House, S. of Fonthill. Dinton was also the birthplace, Jan. 5th, 1598, of *Henry Lawes*, the musician—

"Harry, whose tuneful and well-measured
song

First taught our English music how to span
Words with just note and accent."

Milton.

He was the friend of Milton and of Waller, and was shot at the siege of Chester, 1645. Adjoining the village W. is **Dinton House**, the seat of the Wyndhams, containing good family portraits. On the hill-side W. of the house is **Wick Ball Camp**, a single-ditched entrenchment of 9 acres embosomed in wood. The *Ch.*, E.E. and Dec., with Trans.-Norm. portions, is well worth inspecting. It was restored by Butterfield in 1876. It is cruciform, with a central tower, pleasantly situated near Mr. Wyndham's grounds.

On a promontory of the downs, 1., is **Chiselbury**, a circular encampment enclosed by a single fosse and vallum 27 ft. high, containing 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

93 m. rt. **Teffont Evias**, a very pretty village, adorned with rich woods, and watered by a pretty brook (more properly Ewyas, from its owners, the lords of the castle of that name in Herefordshire). The *Manor-house* (Chas. Maudsley, Esq.), of the age of Henry VII., contains pictures by *Mabuse*, *P. Perugino*, and *G. Romano*, with portraits of the Mayne family by *Gainsborough*, *Morland*, etc., and others of the French imperial family by *Lefebvre*, formerly in the private gallery of the first Napoleon at Fontainebleau. In the manor chapel attached to the parish *Ch.* is a monument to Henry Ley, Esq. (d. 1574), with effigies of himself and two sons. The tower is lofty and richly ornamented, and is crowned by a lofty spire. The *Rectory* is worthy of notice. The E. wall is decorated with Baron de Triquetris' mural mosaics. The rectory was built by Sir G. G. Scott. The

quarries which supplied the stone for Salisbury Cathedral form extensive caverns in this parish, and, since numerous Roman coins have been found in them, it appears as if they had been worked during that period.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. of the rly. is the village of **Fovant**. The *Ch.*, restored and partly rebuilt 1863, has some points of interest, especially the Norm. priest's door and the tower, the date of which is fixed by an inscription on a small mural brass to George Rede, 1495, "rector when the new tower was built," representing the Annunciation, with the legend, "O blessed moder of pite" (pity), "pray to the Sone for me."

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the W. of this is **Sutton Mandeville**, where the *Ch.* is partly Norm., with a fine yew-tree in the churchyard; and close by is **Buxbury**, a promontory projecting conspicuously from the downs.

$94\frac{1}{2}$ m., 2 m. rt. is **Chilmark**, the birthplace, says Fuller, of *John of Chylmark*, a famous mathematician of the reign of Richard II., accounted the Archimedes of that age. It is better known for its *freestone* (the Portland beds), of which Salisbury Cathedral is built. The quarries are 1 m. to the l., but not seen from the road. The *Ch.* (restored 1856) is cruciform, with a noble tower and spire at the intersection. An old Norm. door forms the entrance to the new N. aisle. The interior is rich in colouring and stained glass. Between the rly. and the last-named village is **Chilmark Down**.

95 m. l. is **Castle Ditches**, a very interesting camp and fine point of view, commanding the valley of the Nadder and the woods of Wardour Castle. It is an earthwork of great strength, formed by three concentric ditches and ramparts, 40 ft. in height. The area is 23 acres. Beyond this and close to the rly. rt. is **Chicks Grove**, where the farmhouse of *Gaston* belonged to the abbey of Shaftesbury, and still retains mediæval doors and windows.

$96\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Tisbury Stat.** (the stat. for *Wardour Castle*, 2 m. S.W., and for *Fonthill*, 2 m. N.W.). Tisbury is a large and important village on sharply rising ground above the river Nadder. Tisbury was granted by Ethelred to the Abbess of Shaftesbury, A.D. 984. The *Ch.*, on the lower ground, is one of the largest in South Wilts, with a central tower, the piers supporting which and some of the doorways are relics of an earlier building. The chancel is of more modern work, and tradition assigns the windows to Sir C. Wren. The roof of chancel bears date 1616; that and the roof of nave are of rich plaster-work. The aisles and N. transept have rich wood ceilings, bearing the date 1535, and a centre beam, 1569. It contains many monuments of the Arundells to 1808. Among them are those of Lady Margaret, daughter of Lord Edmund Howard, sister of the unfortunate queen! of Henry VIII., wife of Sir Thomas Arundell (d. 1571); the heroic Lady Blanche; Thomas of Wardour, first Lord Arundell, so created by James I., and Count of the Holy

Roman Empire by Rodolph II., 1595, for his gallantry at the siege of Gran, in Hungary, where he captured with his own hands the Turkish standard, afterwards sent to Rome. There is a brass to Lawrence Hyde, grandfather of the Earl of Clarendon, and his wife. In the churchyard is a hollow yew-tree 37 ft. in circumference, entered by a rustic gate. Tisbury was the birthplace of *Sir John Davies*, poet, author of "The Immortality of the Soul" and "The Dignity of Man," and Attorney-General in Ireland (b. 1569), husband of the would-be prophetess Lady Eleanor Davies, whose anagram of her name "Reveal, O Daniel," "too much by and, and too little by an s," was capped by Lamb, Dean of the Arches, by "never so mad a ladie," also of the Rev. William Jay, long a popular Dissenting preacher at Bath.

Place House, at the N.E. end of the village, is an ancient house, formerly a grange of the Abbess of Shaftesbury, which will repay careful examination. It is "a fine manor-house of the 15th century, without much pretension to ornament or much fortification, but with the buildings of the farmyard perfect. The outer gatehouse is perfect and very good, with unusually large buttresses, simple but imposing, and very picturesque. The room over it is later, and was probably the chapel."—*J. H. P.* Crossing the outer court, we come to a second gatehouse, opening into the inner court, with the house on one side and the offices (rebuilt) on the other. The house is a parallelogram, with the *hall*

for the centre. This retains its roof, but is divided by a floor and partitions into small apartments. Behind the hall is the *kitchen*, now the finest and most perfect part of the house; but the roof is hidden by a plaster ceiling. Above the fireplace, which occupies a quarter of the room, is a remarkably beautiful louvre chimney. At the other end of the hall are the living-rooms of the family. On the rt. of the entrance court is a remarkably fine *barn* of the 15th century, with good buttresses and transeptal gateway, and plain original timber roof. Opposite is a row of stables of the 15th century, "remarkably perfect, with a row of doorways of the usual Perp. style and small windows of single lights, quite original and very uncommon."—*J. H. P.* *Hasledon*, now a farmhouse, belonged once to the Lord Delawarr.

Tisbury has quarries of excellent building stone of the lower Purbeck beds and upper oolite.

[2 m. S.W. is *★ **WARDOUR CASTLE**, the seat of Lord Arundell of Wardour, situated in its park, on a gentle eminence rising from the Nadder. It is a large stone mansion, more remarkable for size than for architectural beauty, with a Corinthian portico attached to the S. front, but justly celebrated for its collection of paintings and of other rare and curious works of art. It was erected between the years 1770-6, after a design by Payne. The visitor enters it on the **N. front**, the wings of which, curving outwards, form a crescent.

This is not, however, the principal front as designed by the architect. He is conducted to the **Rotunda staircase**, formed by a peristyle of fluted Corinthian columns supporting a cupola, and by this very grand and beautiful approach to the following suite of apartments, which contain the pictures:—

The **drawing-room**, in which are the Storm and Calm, by *Joseph Vernet*, a striking contrast, the latter being a moonlight scene; a landscape, *Hobbema* (? *Ruysdael*); the Virgin and Sleeping Child, *Sassoferrato*; Moses striking the Rock, and the Children of Israel collecting Manna, *Bescheij* and *Breughel*; and a landscape by *Rembrandt*.

The **little drawing-room**, with Tobit going to meet his son, *Gerard Dow*, the largest picture by the master known, measuring 6 ft. by 4, drawn with great care and highly finished, the details executed with the painter's usual minuteness; portrait of a lady, *Sir Joshua Reynolds*; two landscapes, *G. Poussin*; also two large pictures by *Nicolas Poussin*; a small circular, *Claude*; two rocky landscapes with robbers, *Salvador Rosa*; two pictures by *Linglebach*; and a large banditti scene by *D. Teniers*, a remarkable picture.

The **boudoir**, containing Christ driving the Money-changers from the Temple, *Rembrandt*; the Marriage of St. Catherine, *Correggio*; the Virgin and Child, *Don Alessandro*; a landscape with cattle, *Loutherbourg*; and some beautiful carvings in ivory, family relics, and other curiosities. Among them are an ivory crucifix, attributed to Michael Angelo—in Rutter's "Sketch of Wardour

Castle," etc. (1822), he says, "This is the celebrated group which had been in the Ciccipone family about 200 years; it was brought from Florence to their palace in Rome with a collection of many original pieces of Michael Angelo, by whom the group was cut before he made the famous 'pieta' in marble in which the hand of the Madonna is different, and stands on a pedestal of very rare Thebaid marble"—the Scourging at the Pillar, three figures in solid silver on a stand of lapis lazuli inlaid with precious stones, a work made for Pope Alexander VII., and presented by him to Queen Christina of Sweden; china saucers painted in imitation of Raphael's cartoons; and the ***Glastonbury Cup**, a very interesting relic. Some have considered that it is not older than the Renaissance (c. 1600), and that it takes its name from having been carved out of a bit of the Glastonbury thorn. Bp. Milner's article in the "Archæologia," vol. xi., where the cup is figured, seems to prove that it really is the old Glastonbury cup. It is a wooden cup resting on crouching lions, the bowl carved in relief with the 12 apostles, and the lid with the Crucifixion. "The contents," says Bp. Milner, "are just 2 quarts of ale measure, and there were originally 8 pegs placed one above another in the inside, which divided the contained liquor into equal quantities of half a pint each." Notice a remarkable silver beaker, enamelled in black, with figures in lavender, of the 15th century.

The **state bedroom**, on the walls of which are—the Angel conducting Peter out of Prison,

Michael Angelo; a Hurdigurdy player in a Dutch village, *Albert Dürer*; portraits of the late Lord Arundell, Miss Markham as an Augustine nun, *Bartoli*; and the Duke of Tuscany, *Giorgione*; and three small pictures by *Schidoni* and *Domenichino*.

The **small ante-room**, containing Sir Thomas Arundell taking the Turkish Standard, *Cooper*; Constantine's Victory over Maxentius, *Filippi*; a small interior by *Teniers*; and head of an old woman, *Rembrandt*.

The **billiard-room**, with the Martyrdom of Pope Sixtus I., *Palma Giovane*; the Three Children of Charles I.; Cardinal Pole; Etna and Vesuvius in eruption (two paintings by the same master); Pope Benedict XIV.; and other popes and cardinals.

The **saloon**, enriched by one of the finest pictures in the collection, Our Saviour taken from the Cross, by *Spagnoletto*, a powerful work, the despair expressed by the attitude and countenance of the Virgin most touching. Among the other pictures in this room are two large landscapes, *G. Poussin*; a Pietà, *Ribera*; a male head, *Velasquez*; a boy playing on a bagpipe, *Caravaggio*; St. Bernard, and the Infant Christ sleeping on the Cross (exquisite in colour), *Titian*; Santa Maria, *Carlo Dolce*; St. Jerome, *Rubens*; John the Baptist, *Guido Reni*; the Holy Family, *A. del Sarto*; Christ's Charge to Peter, *Ann. Carracci*; and Joseph relating his Dream to his Brethren, *Murillo*.

The **dining-room**, hung with portraits: Hugo Grotius, *Rubens*; Sir Thomas More, *Holbein*; Cardinal Pole, *Titian* (a small

picture on panel. This portrait is the one engraved in Lodge's "Portraits," vol. ii. There is another larger portrait of the same dignitary, which is a copy of the Cardinal Pole in the Barberini Library); Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, the first Lord Arundell of Wardour, *Vandyck*; his wife, by the same artist; Viscount Falkland, *Vandyck*; and the 2 daughters of the first Earl Rivers, *Sir P. Lely*.

The **music-room**, with the eighth Lord Arundell of Wardour and his wife, *Sir Joshua Reynolds*, the latter much faded; the seventh Lord Arundell and his wife, by the same artist; the Holy Family, *Giordano*; Hagar in the Desert, *Pompeo Battoni*; and the Lady Blanche, who defended Wardour so gallantly, a copy by *Angelica Kauffman* from a fragmentary portrait, a most delicate face with small features; on the ceiling a copy of Guido's Aurora, by *Pompeo Battoni*.

The **chapel** is in the W. wing, and contains an Assumption by *Caspar de Crayer*; a beautiful relief in marble of the Virgin, Child, and St. John; and a sumptuous altar of agate and marble resting on an antique sarcophagus, and surmounted by a crucifix of solid silver. Here is preserved the Westminster chasuble, exquisitely embroidered with the badges of Henry VIII. and Katharine of Aragon. To the rt. of the altar stands the monument of the second Lord Arundell and his wife Blanche. The sacarium was added by Soane.

The **park** is large and finely wooded, and surrounded by hills:

Castle Ditches on the E., *White-sheet Hill* on the S., and *Castle Rings* and the high land of *Shaftesbury* on the W. The pleasure-grounds bound it N.E., extending more than 1 m. from the house to the ivy-mantled **ruin of the ancient castle**, standing in the bosom of rich woods.

Prior to the reign of Edward III. it was the baronial residence of the family of St. Martin (the market cross at Salisbury was erected by one of the St. Martins), one of whom, Lawrence St. Martin, was knight of the shire in the thirty-fourth year of this monarch's reign. From that family the property passed into the hands of the Lovels, with whom it continued for three generations; and the castle itself appears to have been built in the reign of Richard II. by John, Lord Lovel, of Tichmarsh. On the death of this nobleman's grandson in 1494, the next heir to the estate, finding himself involved in great difficulties by his adherence to the failing cause of the Red Rose of Lancaster, disposed of Wardour Castle and demesne. They appear subsequently to have come into the possession of the Crown, for we next read of their being given by Edward IV. to the Touchets, Lords Audley (afterwards Earls of Castlehaven), in reward of their adherence to the White Rose of York. The Touchets, however, did not long hold them, for the second of that line who possessed them, having been taken in arms against Henry VII. at the battle of Blackheath on June 22nd, 1497, was beheaded on Tower Hill. [The castle seems also to have been in possession of Sir John Cheney, who was killed at the battle of Bosworth, and whose

stature is said to have been remarkable. In the muniment-room at Wardour there is a deed of agreement of sale of the castle by the Earl of Ormond (Earl of Wiltshire) to Lord Willoughby de Broke, dated November 23rd, 15 Henry VII., A.D. 1499.] His estates, of course, were confiscated; and Wardour Castle, after having been held for a short time by Lord Willoughby de Broke and Sir Fulke Greville [Sir Fulke Greville was a cousin of Sir T. Arundell. The Marchioness of Dorset mentions her two sons-in-law, Lord Willoughby de Broke (whose daughter Elizabeth married Sir Fulke Greville) and Sir John Arundell, in her will, *vide* Harris Nicolas's "*Testamenta Vetusta*." Sir Thomas Arundell's mother was Lady Elizabeth Grey, daughter of the Marquis of Dorset], was purchased by Sir John Arundell, of Lanherne, in Cornwall, who presented it to his second son, Sir Thomas Arundell, the husband of Margaret, sister of Catherine Howard, the fifth wife of Henry VIII. This gentleman, however, attaching himself very warmly to the Duke of Somerset, in the next reign shared the Duke's fate, and perished on the scaffold. Sanders in his "*Anglican Schisms*," 1585, p. 190, gives the true history of Sir Thomas's execution. The Catholic party having been thrown over by Dudley, they apparently deputed Sir Thomas Arundell to carry on a negotiation with Somerset. "Therefore Sir Thomas Arundell, a man of influence and a Catholic, secretly visited the Protector, but Dudley, on discovering the fact, had him not long after brought to the block, Sir Thomas dying in the peace of the Church." "Sir Thomas Arundell, who was greatly pitied, was brought to his trial on the 29th January, 1552, but it was with great difficulty that the ruling

party could get a verdict against him, nor was it till after the jury had been locked up for part of that day and all the following night that they would agree, and then those who thought him innocent are said to have yielded for fear of their own lives."—*Bayley's* "History of the Tower," ii., 417.

The estates of Wardour were again confiscated [Mr. John Britton, in the "Beauties of England and Wales," vol. xv., Part II., p. 237, says the estates of Wardour were *not* forfeited, but descended to his son Matthew, whom Queen Elizabeth knighted in 1574. The estates were restored by Queen Mary (*Hoare's* "Wiltshire")], but were shortly afterwards granted by the King to the Earl of Pembroke, whose seat at Wilton lay but a few miles distant; but in the course of a few years the Earl resolved to sell them, when they again came into the possession of the Arundells, having been purchased by Sir Matthew Arundell, whose eldest son, Thomas, known far and wide as "the valiant," was created, in 1605, Lord Arundell of Wardour. His lordship had previously (A.D. 1595) been made a Count of the Holy Roman Empire, as a mark of recognition of his gallantry at the siege of Gran, in Hungary, where, serving under the banner of the Emperor Rudolph of Germany, he captured the Turkish standard with his own hands.

During the Parliamentary wars Wardour was attacked by a powerful force under the command of Sir Edward Hungerford, 1643, at a time when Lord Arundell was in attendance on the King at Oxford. But his lady, Blanche, refused to surrender, and, with her little garrison of 50, only half of whom were fighting-men, aided by the women, who steadily loaded the muskets, most heroically withstood the onslaught of 1300 soldiers and a bom-

bardment which lasted five days. After defending the castle as long as it was tenable, she capitulated on honourable terms May 8th, 1643; but the Republican leader, having once gained possession, did not scruple to violate his engagements and to plunder the mansion of its most valuable contents and devastate the park and grounds. They tore up the park palings, burnt the lodges, and cut down the trees, which they sold for 4d. or 6d. apiece. They drove away the horses and cattle, "and having left nothing in the air or water, they dug under the earth," where they tore up two miles of leaden piping which conveyed water to the castle, which they cut up and sold at 6d. a yard.

The three young children of Lord Arundell's son and heir, together with their mother, Cecily, the daughter of Sir Henry Compton, of Brambletye House, Sussex, and widow of Sir John Fermor, were with Lady Blanche in the castle at the time of the attack, and were also removed to Shaftesbury; but after a time, apparently under the pretence that they were not safe in that town, the rebels resolved upon moving them to Bath, where the plague was then raging. At Bath the two sons of Cecily Arundell, aged respectively nine and seven years, were ruthlessly separated from their mother and despatched, under a strong guard, to Dorchester.

Wardour Castle, being thus surrendered, was immediately garrisoned for the Parliament and placed under the command of Colonel Edmund Ludlow, one of the most active partisans of the Commons in the west of England. Just at the time of Ludlow's taking possession news arrived there that Lord Arundell, the husband of Lady Blanche, had died at Oxford of wounds which he had received

at the battle of Lansdowne. The term of Ludlow's occupation was but of short duration. A fortnight had scarcely elapsed when the new Lord Arundell, the husband of Cecily, appeared before the walls of the castle and summoned Ludlow to deliver up the place to him for "his Majesty's use." This summons was, of course, of no avail, and "burning with rage at his father's death, his mother's capture, and his children's imprisonment, he withdrew for a time to collect materials for the siege of his own castle." Early in the following year, aided by Sir Francis Doddington, he marched into Wiltshire and sat down before it, intent upon taking it either by siege or blockade. The resistance he met with was of a most determined nature. Despairing of effecting his object by any less desperate means, Lord Arundell resolved to blow up the towers and walls rather than leave them in the hands of the rebels. This his lordship did in the middle of the month of March. He directed a mine to be sprung which shattered the walls and western towers, and did so much damage to the stores of corn and other provisions, that the garrison found themselves reduced to only four days' rations. Seeing that all hope was now at an end, Ludlow was speedily compelled to capitulate. And thus the young Lord Arundell sacrificed the noble and magnificent structure to his loyalty. However, he gained possession, but only to find the castle sadly shorn of its chief ornaments and its walls battered and disfigured. Such portions of the adjoining building as could be put into a habitable condition the family once more occupied, and here and at Breamore, in Hampshire, they resided for the space of a hundred and thirty years, when they removed to the new

and noble mansion as mentioned above.

As further evidence of the devoted loyalty of the Arundells and of the suffering and loss which they experienced in the royal cause during the civil wars, it may be added that about the same time Wardour Castle was besieged, Lord Arundell's brother, William Arundell, was attacked by the Parliamentarians at Woodhouse, in the village of Horningsham, near Longleat, Wilts, his wife, the widow of Lord St. John, escaping by being carried out in a coffin. Pendennis Castle, near Falmouth, likewise underwent a lengthy siege, and held out for nearly a year under Colonel John Arundell, the governor, who was then nearly eighty years of age. His son, Richard Arundell, Esq., held a command in the battle of Kineton, Warwickshire, where he displayed the hereditary valour of his family, and he was subsequently actively engaged during the whole of the civil wars, in which disastrous conflicts he was despoiled of the entire of his landed property. On the re-establishment of the monarchy, however, this was restored to him, and, in consideration of the devotedness of his father, his brothers, and himself to the royal cause, he was created in 1664 Lord Arundell of Trerice, in Cornwall, a title which became extinct on the death of the fourth lord in 1768. Lastly, we may add that Chideock Castle, Dorset, the property of the Arundells of Lanherne, was destroyed by the Cromwellians.

On the release of Lady Blanche Arundell from captivity she retired to Winchester, where she lived in seclusion, leading a life of piety and charity, and there she ended her days in October, 1649, having survived for some six years or more the loss of her husband and the siege of his castle.

Her remains, together with those of her husband and many other members of the Arundell family, are interred in the parish of Tisbury, adjoining the park of Wardour.

The *castle*, which is "very valuable as an example of a nobleman's house at the beginning of the 15th century" (*J. H. P.*), is hexagonal in plan, with an open court, with 2 square towers attached to the E. or entrance point. The walls are nearly perfect and unusually lofty; a good example of Early Perp. Over the gate of entrance is a niche containing the head of the Saviour, with the inscription—

"Sub Numine tuo
Stet Genus et Domus,"

beneath which are the family arms with a further Latin inscription. The windows of the dining-hall are on the first floor. The kitchen, with tall narrow windows, was on the same level, behind the hall, with vaulted chambers below. The staircase from the courtyard remains, with its groined roof.

The visitor, having entered the precincts of the ruin through a gatehouse, stands on a carpet of turf under the shadow of the cedar, the cypress, and the ironwood tree (the last springing from the ground in a cluster of stems), which combine with the ruins in producing a most picturesque effect. A hexagonal court forms the centre, and contains the well sunk by Ludlow during the siege. Adjoining the ruins, in the buildings of a farm, are the remains of the mansion occupied by the family after the destruction of this castle, and to the time of

their removal to the present house.

Wardour was the birthplace of Sir Nicholas Hyde, Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench 1627–31.

[3 m. N.W. **Hindon**, an ancient but inconsiderable market town on the high-road from Salisbury to Taunton, once returning two members, but as a borough "memorable only for its venality." —*Gough*. It is said that a member, returning thanks for the honour of his election, was interrupted by an elector, who bluntly told him "he need not trouble himself to thank them 'for if the squire had zent his great dog, we should have chose him, all one as if it were your zur.'" It is needless to add that the first Reform Act deprived it of its parliamentary honours. It was represented by *Monk Lewis* and *Henry Fox*, afterwards Lord Holland, and contested unsuccessfully at the commencement of his career by the late Lord Beaconsfield. It consists of one broad street, planted with trees. Most of the town was destroyed by fire, July 2nd, 1755. The *Church* commenced by the late Marquis of Westminster and completed by the Marchioness in 1871. It stands on the site of one built in the reign of Philip and Mary. It is of early French architecture with a tower and spire.

On the N. and W. Hindon is bounded by a wild expanse of down, tumid in many places with ancient earthworks. The site of a British village may be traced at a little distance to the N.W. and several others on the border of the **Great Ridge Wood**, 2 m.

N. A Roman road runs from end to end of the same wood.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. is the little village of **Berwick St. Leonard's**, where are some remains of the old manor-house, built in the reign of James I., and from 1629 to 1735 the seat of the Howes. In 1688 the Prince of Orange slept in it on his road to London. The porch forms the entrance to the kitchen-garden, in which is a sycamore of remarkable size. The little *Ch.* adjoining the house, very carefully rebuilt in 1860, contains monuments to the Howes, including one with effigies of George Howe (d. 1647) and Dorothy his wife.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. further E. is **Fonthill Bishop**, with an ancient cruciform *Ch.*; on the rt. is the entrance to

★ **FONTHILL**, once so well known as Fonthill Abbey, the seat of the author of "Vathek," which has undergone many changes within the last half-century. The estate has been sold and subdivided, and now belongs in part to Sir M. R. Shaw Stewart, and in part to Hugh Morrison, Esq. As a baronial seat, it dated from a very distant period, having been the lordship of the Giffards about the time of the Conquest. From the Giffards it has passed in succession through the families of Maunde-will, Mauduit, Molyn, Hungerford, Mervyn, Cottington, and Beckford.

The history of Fonthill has been chequered by many disasters. The ancient mansion of the Mervyns fell a prey to the flames; the second,

built by the Cottingtons, 1650, and purchased by Alderman Beckford, shared a similar fate in 1755; and the third, "Fonthill splendens," as it has been called, erected by the alderman at a cost of £240,000, became dilapidated, and was sold by his son, who disliked the damp site, for £9000. It was then that the author of "Vathek" shifted the site, and planned his pretentious (so-called) abbey, upon which more than another quarter of a million was expended. But this fairy palace, having arisen to become the wonder and admiration of all beholders, was fated to a brief existence, for its destruction commenced Dec. 21st, 1825, with the fall of the tower. This, however, did not take place until after the sale of the whole estate in 1823, with the abbey and its valuable contents, to Mr. Farquhar, for the round sum of £290,000. On hearing of the fall of the tower, Beckford is reported to have said, "Well, it has shown more civility to Mr. Farquhar than it ever did to me. He has had it but one year. I had it twenty-seven, and during all that time it neither bowed nor curtsied." Mr. Farquhar cared nothing for the place, and degraded it by the erection of a cloth mill on the lake. In the days of its glory Fonthill had been the scene of many splendid fêtes, particularly those of 1781 on the occasion of Mr. Beckford's coming of age, when music, dancing, and feasting, were continued for a week, when 300 guests assembled at the dinner-table, and 1200 of Mr. Beckford's tenants and the people of the neighbourhood dined on the lawn, when the surrounding hills were illuminated by bonfires, and the park by 30,000 lamps; and that of 1797, during the building of the abbey, when after a succession of rural sports in the park, and the roasting of an ox and 10 sheep at 11 fires, 700 persons were

feasted, and blankets and fuel distributed to all the poor of the neighbourhood.

But Fonthill was the scene of still greater excitement when the abbey and all its contents were thrown open for sale, first by Mr. Christie in 1822, and afterwards by Mr. Phillips in 1824. For not only had the art treasures of that princely place been sealed against the public, but the park itself, known by ruinour as a beautiful spot, had for several years been enclosed by a most formidable wall, six miles in circuit. This had been built by Mr. Beckford to exclude poachers and the hounds, but by no means with the object of "preserving" the game. "I never suffer an animal," he said, "to be killed but through necessity. In early life I gave up shooting, because I consider we have no right to murder animals for sport. I am fond of animals. The birds in the plantations of Fonthill seemed to know me. They continued their songs as I rode close to them; the very hares grew bold. It was exactly what I wished." In a solitary ride, such as he has described, he encountered a whole bevy of men and dogs ranging at full liberty over his land. He at once returned to his house, and sent a notice for a contractor who was to build a wall around all the planted and arable part of his estate, extending about 7 m., within 12 months. It was to be 12 ft. high, and to have a chevaux-de-frise on the top, and such a wall was completed in 1796. "I found remonstrances," he said, "vain, and so I built a wall." Mr. Beckford was born at Fonthill 1759, and on attaining his majority found himself one of the richest subjects in England, the possessor of nearly a million in ready money, and an income of £100,000 a year. Unfortunately this wealth was derived in great part from West Indian

property, and its depreciation in value obliged the accomplished and magnificent patron of the arts, the millionaire of Fonthill and Cintra, eventually to sell his estates and content himself with a house at Bath. His abbey was commenced about 1796, and at Christmas, 1800, when partly finished, was visited by Nelson, who came by invitation in company with Sir William and Lady Hamilton.

About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Hindon is a series of beautiful terrace walks one above the other, overlooking the grounds of Fonthill. The uppermost is much the longest and runs into Mr. Morrison's grounds.

The entrance is 1 m. from Hindon towards Salisbury by an archway supported by a very handsome wall of great massiveness. Having passed it, the traveller will view with delight the noble expanse of park-like scenery. A lake glistens in the vale, and on either side of it, at some distance, rise finely wooded hills. To the rt. is the mansion of Mr. Morrison, with a lofty tower in the Italian style (the nucleus of which is a wing of Alderman Beckford's mansion), full of artistic treasures, seated under a splendid screen of trees. Continuing along the road, the visitor in $\frac{1}{4}$ m. will reach the now dilapidated *Hermit's Cave*, made by the younger Beckford, consisting of subterranean excavations lighted by openings in the wood above, and passing under the road. By the waterside, below these caves, stands a cedar of great size, and there is a ferry to the opposite shore, where a landing-place of stone, with balustrade and vases, forms a pretty

feature. From the Hermit's Cave the road ascends a hill to an inn, and the little church of **Fonthill Giffard**, where Beckford's classical structure has been replaced by a beautiful building erected by the late Marquis of Westminster.

A little beyond the inn a stone lodge guards the iron gates, by which the privileged visitor obtains admission to the approach, which leads under silver firs of great beauty to the new mansion erected near the lake by the Marquis of Westminster, in the style of a Scotch castle, from the designs of W. Burn, Esq. On the hill to the north-west of the house stands one tower of the former abbey, which has been strengthened, and converted partly into a cottage for its guardian, and partly into rooms, furnished with oak. The view from the top of the tower is very extensive, commanding the Dorset hills, the Wiltshire downs, and their highest point, Whingreen, and the woods of Wardour, and on the W. a green glade nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a m. long, which forms the chief approach to the abbey ground, and is one of the many miles of drives which Mr. Beckford constructed in the magnificent woods. The proper name of the lake, which is a very pretty one, is the "Bittern Lake." The "Beacon Hill" (778 ft.) is the highest point in the woods.]

Proceeding on our route, $98\frac{1}{2}$ m., $\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the rt. is **Pyt House**, the seat of Mrs. Thomas Benett, occupied by Hamilton Fletcher, Esq., a short m. S. of Fonthill, and 3 from Hindon. It is a handsome stone structure of Grecian

architecture, erected by Mr. Benett about 50 years ago. It is faced by a portico, and commands a view across the valley of the Nadder of the hills about Shaftesbury. It contains a few choice pictures, among them the portrait of Francis I., by *Albert Dürer*; the Rape of Helen, by *Luca di Giordano*; two cabinet paintings by *Van der Velde*, a storm and a calm; and portraits of Prince Rupert, King William, and Queen Mary. Behind the house, quite hidden among the woods, is a pretty little chapel, now disused. Adjoining the park wall is

Hatch House, an old manor-house, originally a seat of the Hyde family; but now incorporated with the buildings of a farm. During the great plague of 1665 every inhabitant of the house is said to have perished.

$101\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Semley Stat.** The village of Semley, which takes its name from the little river *Sem*, which here joins the Nadder, lies $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. further E. It was granted by Edwy to the abbess of Wilton in 955. Its little *Ch.* has a Norm. font, and till its rebuilding in 1875 by the Marchioness of Westminster was remarkable for a self-sown apple tree growing on the top of the tower.

[3 m. N. is **East Knoyle**, conspicuous by its windmill on the high ground behind it, the birth-place of *Sir Christopher Wren* (1632). He was the son of the rector. The rectory in which he was born was pulled down 1880. His father, Dr. Christopher Wren, descended from an old family of

Danish origin, was a Fellow of St. John's, Oxford, chaplain in ordinary to Charles I., Dean of Windsor, and registrar of the Order of the Garter. He was a learned divine, and had even studied the art in which his son so distinguished himself. He got himself into trouble with the Committee for Scandalous Ministers by the stuccoes and pictures in his church. The *Ch.*, pleasantly situated on rising ground, is cruciform, with a tower at the W. end. It was restored by the rector, the Rev. R. N. Milford, in memory of his father-in-law, Bishop Sumner, of Winchester, patron of the living and lord of the manor.

Knogle House, the seat of Miss Seymour. The old house, which had no architectural merit, has been extensively enlarged and improved from the designs of Messrs. Carpenter and Inge-low. A hall has been erected on the site of an open courtyard; a new staircase has been built, and the whole house has been raised a story. Italian columns, imported by Mr. Seymour, have been largely used. The hall contains a collection of pictures, amongst which are Henry VIII., after *Holbein*, but not a contemporary copy, Sir Edward Seymour, Speaker of the House of Commons, and others of the Seymour family. There is also a small collection of well-chosen pictures, chiefly of the Netherlandish school. Among them are the following: *A Van der Velde*, a pastoral landscape; *W. Van der Velde*, a sea-piece, the water calm and studded with vessels, a beautiful specimen of

the master; *J. Vernet*, a coast view; *J. Van der Heyden*, a charming landscape, the figures by *A. Van der Velde*; *B. Van Orley*, the Virgin and Joseph adoring the new-born Child; *A. Turchi*, a Pietà; *Luis de Morales*, Virgin and Child, a picture of elevated feeling, and of which there is another example in the Berlin Gallery; *Teniers*, Cerberus at the Gates of Hell; *Canaletto*, in ante-room; *Pierre Van Oss*, Fruit and Flower.]

[2½ m. S.E. of Semley Stat. lie the villages of *Donhead St. Andrew* and *Donhead St. Mary*, both taking their names from the little river Don, which rises here and flows into the Nadder, straggling picturesquely over the steep descent to the park of Wardour Castle. The *Ch.* of **Donhead St. Andrew**, badly restored some years back, lies in a deep hollow, and contains a curiously sculptured capital. It represents a shield bearing the emblems of the Crucifixion and supported by angels. This rests on a head of the Saviour, which terminates the shaft. *Ferne House*, the seat of Sir W. J. Grove, Bart., commands extensive views. It contains a portrait of Hugh Grove, beheaded at Exeter with Colonel Penraddocke in 1655.

The church of **Donhead St. Mary**, standing on rising ground above the little river, deserves a visit. The S. side of the nave is E.E., c. 1220, the N. side c. 1260; the tower arch, porch, and side chapels, c. 1350; the tower and chancel c. 1500. There is a rude circular Norm. font. There is a fine view of Wardour

Castle from the churchyard. An old farmhouse near the spring in the manor of Combe is called "the *Priory*," from the fact of a handful of monks of the Carthusian order having taken refuge there during the first French revolution. The monumental slab of one of the number, Antonio Guillemot, may be noticed in the parish church.

The scenery here in the higher parts is exceedingly diversified, rising into lofty hills, partly covered with wood, and intersected with deep ravines or combes. In one of these called Chilver Combe Bolton, near the hamlet of Ashgrove, is a burial-place belonging to the Society of Friends. Below the chalk is a bed of upper greensand, or firestone, extensively quarried for building purposes.

Donhead Hall, adjoining these villages, was built by Sir Godfrey Kneller, who resided here for a time. It is now the property of H. B. Blackburn, Esq. *Combe House* (M. H. Beaufoy, Esq., J.P.) is also in this parish.

Whitesheet Hill commands extensive views on either side. Below to the l. lies the village of **Berwick St. John**, with a cruciform *Ch.* under *Winkelbury*, or *Vespasian's Camp* (Rte. 8).

To the rt. the eye ranges from the park of *Wardour Castle* to the woods of *Fonthill*. Shaftesbury and the far country to the W. are well displayed on the descent from this high tract of land.

A striking feature of this neighbourhood is **Sticklepath Hill**,

an eminence of greensand, the W. point of which is cut off by a ditch and rampart overgrown with copsewood. The area thus enclosed is 15½ acres, and known by the name of **Castle Rings**. The abrupt slope on the E. side of Sticklepath Hill forms Donhead Cliff. Below the hill to the S.W. is *Wincombe Park* (Stewart A. Caley, Esq.).]

[2½ m. S. of Semley Stat., just within the Dorsetshire border, perched high on the narrow ridge of a greensand hill, which pushes itself forward from the chalk down into the low country to the W., stands the town of

★ **SHAFTESBURY** (Pop. 2122), a municipal and once a parliamentary borough returning one member. It is locally called Shaston, and appears under that name in the Wessex Novels, especially "Jude the Obscure," where it is thus described: "Shaston, the ancient British Palladour, 'from whose foundation first such strange reports arise' (as Drayton sang it), was, and is, in itself the city of a dream. Vague imaginings of its castle, its three mints, its magnificent apsidal abbey, the chief glory of South Wessex, its twelve churches, its shrines, chantries, hospitals, its gabled freestone mansions, all now ruthlessly swept away, throw the visitor, even against his will, into a pensive melancholy, which the stimulating atmosphere and limitless landscape around him can scarcely dispel. The spot was the burial-place of a king and a queen, of abbots and abbesses, saints and bishops, knights and squires. The bones

of King Eadward 'the Martyr,' carefully removed hither for holy preservation, brought Shaston a renown which made it the resort of pilgrims from every part of Europe, and enabled it to maintain a reputation extending far beyond English shores. To this fair creation of the great Middle Age the dissolution was, as historians tell us, the death-knell. With the destruction of the enormous abbey the whole place collapsed in a general ruin; the Martyr's bones met with the fate of the sacred pile that held them, and not a stone is now left to tell where they lie. The natural picturesqueness and singularity of the town still remain; but, strange to say, these qualities, which were noted by many writers in ages when scenic beauty is said to have been unappreciated, are passed over in this, and one of the quaintest and queerest spots in England stands virtually unvisited to-day. It has a unique position on the summit of an almost perpendicular scarp, rising on the N., S., and W. sides of the borough out of the deep alluvial Vale of Blackmore, the view from the castle green over three counties of verdant pasture—South, Mid, and Nether Wessex—being as sudden a surprise to the unexpected traveller's eyes as the medicinal air is to his lungs. Impossible to a railway, it can best be reached on foot, next best by light vehicles, and it is hardly accessible to these but by a sort of isthmus on the N.E., that connects it with the high chalk table-land on that side. Such is, and such was, the now world-forgotten Shaston or Palladour."

Shaftesbury has a traditional claim to be one of the oldest towns in England. Geoffrey of Monmouth assigns its foundation to Hudibras, grandfather of King Lear, 950 B.C., and reports that an eagle spoke while the wall was being built. Brampton assigns its origin to Cassivelaunus, A.D. 52. Its ancient name was *Caer Palladour*, of which Shaftesbury is said to be an Anglo-Saxon equivalent. What is certain is that a nunnery was founded here in 880 by Ælfred, of which his daughter Æthelgifu was the first abbess. Eadmund Ironside and Æthelstan were liberal patrons of the abbey, in which Æthelgifu, the queen of the former, was buried. In 901 the body of Eadward the Martyr was solemnly translated here from Wareham by Ælphere, Earl of Mercia, in the presence of Abp. Dunstan, Ælfwold, Bishop of Sherborne, Wulfrith, Abbess of Wilton, with her nuns, and an immense concourse of nobility and commonalty. The miraculous cures wrought at the saint's tomb brought multitudes of pilgrims from all parts of the kingdom, by whose offerings the abbey soon became exceedingly rich. The town and abbey now became known as Eadwardstow. Æthelred, in 1001, gave the convent the town of Bradford, "that the nuns might have a safe refuge from the Danes." Canute died at Shaftesbury November 12th, 1035, but was buried at Winchester. By successive donations the possessions of the abbey became so extensive, that Fuller records an old saying, that "if the Abbess of Shaftesbury might wed the Abbot of Glastonbury, their heir would have more land than the King of England." The King on his accession had the right to nominate a nun. After the dissolution the abbey estates were granted to Wriothesley, Earl of Southampton, and now belong to

the Duke of Westminster. In 1558 John Bradley, Abbot of Milton, was consecrated Suffragan Bishop of Shaftesbury. In the civil wars Shaftesbury was held alternately by the forces of the King and the Parliament. The neutral body of *Clubmen*, formed to protect the district from both parties, met here August, 1645, when 50 of their leaders were seized by Fleetwood, by which, and their defeat on Hambledon Hill, the party was broken up. In 1672 this town was chosen by Anthony Ashley Cooper as the title of his earldom, which still continues in his family.

The **abbey**, which stood to the S. of Trinity Church between it and "the park," appears to have been levelled with the ground immediately after the dissolution, and few traces of it were known to exist till July, 1861, when excavations brought to light the foundations of an apsidal choir, with apsidal chapels to the N. and S., contained, like those at Romsey, in the thickness of a rectangular wall, with an encaustic tile pavement, and other architectural fragments testifying to the style of the church. At the same time a stone coffin containing a skeleton, an abbot's pastoral staff and ring, was brought to light. A fragment of the Abbey House stands to the S. of Trinity Church.

Holy Trinity, the chief church of the town, was rebuilt 1842 in the E.E. style. The vestry contains a library. The churchyard is ornamented with fine avenues of limes.

St. Peter's is an ancient building of Perp. character. The

aisles and clerestory run the whole length of the church. There is no chancel arch. The N. wall facing the High Street is surmounted by a remarkably rich battlemented parapet, elaborately carved with pomegranates, roses, portcullises, pointing to the early years of Henry VIII.'s reign, and shields bearing arms. The tower is square and massive. On the belfry wall are inscribed some quaint lines which may deserve perusal.

St. James's Church, in the liberty of Alcester, was rebuilt in 1867 in the Dec. style, retaining the windows and ornamental parapets of the old church.

The streets are narrow and mean, though many improvements were made by the late Marquis of Westminster. A new *Town Hall*, and a market-house 270 ft. long, chiefly for the sale of corn and butter, and cattle market, have been erected.

In Salisbury Street are some *almshouses* of Tudor architecture, for men and women. The *Westminster Cottage Hospital*, to the memory of the late Marquis, was opened 1874.

The Rev. James Granger, author of the "Biographical History of England," was born at Shaftesbury (1716); also Lord Justice Lush (1807).

The entrance to the **Park Walk**, so called from the abbey park, is close to the Grosvenor Arms. At the E. end are some remains of the abbey wall. It overlooks the country to the S. and S.W. The great eminence to the S. is *Melbury Hill*, the

boundary of the high land of *Cranborne Chase*.

The **Castle Hill** is the W. end of the ridge, and commands a most extensive and beautiful landscape. On either side rises a conical hill, singularly like one another, and each about 2 m. from Shaftesbury. That on the rt. is **Kingsettle**, a wooded point on the line of hill which terminates in Castle Hill; that on the l., the mitred summit of **Duncliff**.

Standing, as the town does, on an elevated ridge, it was formerly but scantily provided with spring-water, and the supply of this necessary article was brought on horses' backs from Enmore Green, near Motcombe, in the parish of Gillingham, until the liberality of the late Marquis of Westminster constructed engines and reservoirs in the town itself, conveying a good supply direct to the houses. Hence arose a curious custom which was annually observed here, discontinued since 1830. On the Monday before Holy Thursday the Mayor proceeded to Enmore Green with a large fanciful broom, or *byzant* (besom), as it was called, which he presented as an acknowledgment for the water to the steward of the manor, together with a calf's head, a pair of gloves, a gallon of ale, and two penny loaves of wheaten bread. This ceremony being concluded, the byzant, which was usually hung with jewels and other costly ornaments, was returned to the Mayor, and carried back to the town in procession. The byzant last used is in the possession of Lady Theodora Guest.

1 m. N.W. is *Motcombe House* (Rt. Hon. Lord Stalbridge, P.C.), a plain modern mansion. The original of Fielding's "Parson Trulliber" was one Oliver, curate of Motcombe. The novelist resided at East Stower, 4 m. W.

In *Wincombe Park*, N.E., seat of Stewart A. Caley, Esq., rises the river *Nadder*, forming at its source a small lake, from which in the olden time the nuns of Shaftesbury were supplied with fish.]

Returning to the rly. at

102 m., we enter Dorsetshire, and crossing the *Lidden*, reach

105½ m. ★ **Gillingham** Stat. (Pop. 3303). The parish of Gillingham is of immense size, 41 m. in circuit, and containing 61,000 acres. The land was once chiefly forest, but is now almost entirely dairy pasture. It was a royal forest, often assigned in jointure to the queen consort. It was held by Margaret of France, Margaret of Anjou, Jane Seymour, Katharine Howard, Katharine Parr, and Anne of Denmark. It was disforested by Charles I. In early times Gillingham was a town of some importance. The *Witan* at which Edward the Confessor was accepted as King of England was held here 1042. ½ m. S.E. of the church stood a hunting-lodge of our early kings, repaired by John, who frequently visited it, and by Henry III. Edward I. spent his Christmas here c. 1270. The foundations may still be traced. The *Ch.* was rebuilt in meagre Gothic in 1838 except the chancel, which is good Dec. It contains some good

open benches, and recumbent effigies of John Jessop, M.D., Fellow of Merton (d. 1615), and his brother John, vicar of this parish (d. 1625). In the N. chancel aisle is the tomb of the last co-heiress of the Dirdoe family, dated 1733. Over the tower arch is the long Latin epitaph of Edward Davenant, nephew of the Bishop of Salisbury, who, dispossessed in the Great Rebellion, lived to regain his vicarage.

Gildon, Pope's bitter critic, was born here (d. 1724).

"Yet then did Gildon draw his venal quill,
I wished the man a dinner and sat still."

Gillingham is a thriving and increasing town. It contains mills for flour, silk, rope and twine, sacking and flax, bacon-curing establishment, and a large brewery giving employment to many hands. A large number of bricks, tiles, and drain-tiles are also made here. The air is very salubrious, and the neighbourhood highly picturesque.

Wyke Hall (Captain E. M. Birch) is 1 m. W.

Milton, $\frac{1}{4}$ m. N., is a hamlet of Gillingham, with a rather attractive E.E. church, with apsidal chancel. *Milton Lodge* (C. A. W. Chichester, Esq.), *Stock Hill* (A. T. Manger, Esq., J.P.), and *Kendells* (G. B. Matthews, Esq.) are handsome residences.

The three rivers, Stour, Shreen water, and Lidden, unite a little below the town.

[2 m. S. is **East Stower**, the *Manor-house* of which (pulled down 1835) was the property of Fielding, the novelist, in right of his mother. On her death he

settled here with his first wife, but lived too expensively, and in less than three years had devoured the whole property with hounds, horses, and entertainments. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1842.

1 m. W. is **West Stower**, standing on an eminence. The *Ch.* is ancient, chiefly E.E. The Rev. William Young, incumbent of West Stower, editor of "Ainsworth's Dictionary," was the prototype of Fielding's "Parson Adams." As an instance of his absence of mind it is recorded that once, when chaplain to a regiment in Flanders, he wandered in a reverie into the enemy's camp, and was only aroused to his error by his arrest. The commanding officer, perceiving the good man's simplicity, allowed him to return to his friends. To the N.E. the escarpment of the chalk from Hindon to Bradley Knoll forms the leading feature of the landscape. The wooded cone of **Duncliff** has a very beautiful appearance. Its summit is encircled by a solitary entrenchment, partly concealed by the trees, and watered by a spring.

3 m. N.W. is **Silton**. The *Ch.* stands on a knoll above the Stour, commanding pleasing views. The arcade is E.E. To the N. is a chapel with a beautiful fan-traceried roof. A cumbrous marble monument, with a life-size effigy, commemorates Sir Hugh Wyndham, one of the justices of the Common Pleas (d. 1684).

4 m. N. of Gillingham (Semley 6 m., Wincanton 8 m.) stands the little market town of

★ **Mere** (Pop. 3000), on the borders of the three counties of Wilts,

Dorset, and Somerset, but actually in Wilts, in a wild and bleak down country, with wide views all round. The *Ch.* is one of the best in South Wilts, of various dates, chiefly of the 14th and 15th centuries. It has a stately tower with lofty pinnacles, and within a richly carved oaken ceiling, good rood and six other screens, stalls, and parcloes. The clerestory is continued in the chancel. It is chiefly Perp., but the S. chapel and other parts are transitional from Dec. There are traces of E.E., and some parts have been considered to be pre-Conquest. The chapel contains an altar-tomb and two brasses; one, a large and fine one, to the founder, John Bettes-thorne (d. 1398), is remarkable for commemorating the dominical letter of the year; the other, imperfect, is probably for his son-in-law, Sir John Berkeley (d. 1427).

To the S. of the churchyard is a mediæval house, known as the *Chantry-house*, once used as a school by Barnes, the Dorset poet. On entering by the original entrance on the N. side, the doors opening from the hall to the kitchen and buttery may be seen on the left hand. To the N. of the churchyard, adjoining the high-road, is a mediæval dwelling, now a barn. The eastern end was of two stories, each with a handsome fireplace. Beyond was the hall, with a fine open roof. In the street of Mere a mediæval shop of plain Perp. character deserves notice.

The ancient *Market-house* was pulled down, and in 1866 a clock-tower erected on its site at the expense of the Prince of Wales as Duke of Cornwall, to which duchy Mere belongs.

To the N.W. is the mound of the castle, which was built 1253 by Richard, Earl of Cornwall, to whom Mere had been granted by his brother, Henry III. To the S.W. near the town is *Mere Park*, and 1 m. S. **Woodlands**, where the remains of the 15th-century mansion of the Doddingtons deserve a visit. The *hall* has two square-headed windows and a porch with a chamber over it. Adjoining the hall on the N. is the oldest and most interesting portion of the house, consisting of a building of two stories of the 14th century. The upper portion, now used as a cheese-room, was the chapel. The piscina remains, and on the N. side is a good Dec. square-headed window, with flowing tracery. The E. window has Perp. tracery. At the W. end is a large Jacobean fireplace. The lower room has also a fireplace and a ceiling of this date. The whole has been sadly modernised and spoilt.

3 m. W. of Mere is Pen Selwood, and the excavations known as *Pen Pits* ("Handbook for Somerset").

2 m. N.W. of Mere, on a precipitous jutting promontory, is **Whitesheet Castle**, considered by Hoare as a British work further strengthened by the Saxons. It occupies 15 acres, and is defended on the side most easy of access by triple ramparts. Whitesheet Castle is considered by Bp. Clifford to have been the "*Petra Ægbryhti*," Egbert's stone, placed by Hoare at Brixton Deverel (Rte. 11). 2 m. further N. is *Long Knoll*.

3 m. W. is **STOURHEAD**, the

beautiful seat of Sir Henry Ainslie Hoare, Bart., planted on a range of lofty hills. It is well known for a fine collection of pictures, but more celebrated for the extreme beauty and decoration of its park and grounds. The road to Stourhead from Mere passes on the l. **Zeals House** (J. P. Brown, Esq., J.P.), a manor-house formerly of the Chafyns, where is a carved roof of the same character as that at Woodlands. *Zeals Ch.* was built 1846. John Grove, who married the heiress of the Chafyns, was beheaded at Exeter in 1655 for his share in Penruddocke's rising. In view on the rt. are the heights of *Whitesheet Camp* and *Bradley Knoll*.

Stourhead is entered by an embattled gatehouse, flanked by round towers, and beautifully ivied. The mansion consists of a centre, built after the designs of Colin Campbell in 1720, and of two wings added 1800, the former fronted by a Corinthian portico and two flights of steps, each terminated by a large ornamental basin, on the rims of which two sculptured birds lean forward in the attitude of drinking. The view embraces a foreground of beech-trees and Spanish chestnuts, remarkable for the large size of their trunks, and originally planted along the approach to old Stourton House, now destroyed. The house contains a valuable collection of pictures and other objects, but the series of antiquities collected from Wiltshire barrows, etc., by the great baronet, are in the Museum at Devizes.

A visitor to the *pleasure-grounds*, after passing the gate-

house, descends between banks of turf and hedges of laurel to the hamlet of

Stourton, a group of pretty cottages, ancient church, and *inn*, in a little wooded dell. The *Ch.* is a small building, with embattled tower, rising from a churchyard decked with flowers, containing a lofty stone cross, the mausoleum of the Hoare family, and a monumental tower enclosing the marble tomb and remains of *Sir Richard Colt Hoare*. In the church are memorials of the Stourtons, including the effigy of a lady of the 14th century, enclosed in a kind of box, and the effigies of Edward, the fifth baron (d. 1536), and his lady, Agnes Fauntleroy, and a mural monument to Henry Hoare, Esq., 1785, with inscription by the pen of Hayley.

Opposite the church is the entrance to the **pleasure-grounds**, where the confined scene of Stourton suddenly gives place to a large and beautiful lake of 30 acres, and 2 m. in circuit, embosomed in wooded hills, which open in distant vistas ascending through the park. Near the entrance stands the ***High Cross of Bristol**, erected in that city about 1373. It is an elaborate piece of stonework, decorated with the statues of 8 of our monarchs—King John, Henry III., Edward I., Edward III., Henry VI., Elizabeth, James I., and Charles I., the last four added in 1633. It was taken down in 1733, and shortly afterwards given by Dean Barton, whose brother was rector of Stourton, to Mr. Henry Hoare, who re-erected it where it now

stands. Descending to the level of the lake, the visitor passes the *Temple of the Muses*, *Paradise Well*, and an old *font* removed from the church. Pursuing the path which follows the windings of the shore, the visitor will observe a silver beech of extraordinary beauty and a thorn-tree, on which a mountain-ash has been engrafted. A view now opens on the rt. up **Six Wells Bottom** to **St. Peter's Pump**, a plain hexagonal building with coarse sculptures, another relic from Bristol, covering the six sources of the Stour. The path next crosses an arm of the lake, and winding past the *swan-house*, dives into the *grotto*, where the Stour, conducted underground from the Six Wells, is poured forth from the urn of the river god. A sleeping nymph in marble reclines by a bath in another recess, the following lines by Pope (from "Cardinal Bembo") being inscribed on the rock:—

"Nymph of the grot, these sacred springs I
keep,
And to the murmur of these waters sleep;
Ah! spare my slumbers, gently tread the
cave,
And drink in silence, or in silence lave."

Emerging from this cavern, the visitor threads a beech-grove to a spring, which, rising under a tulip-tree, flows swiftly to the lake. Beyond is the portico of the *Pantheon*, a miniature copy of that at Rome, decorated with several statues, including an antique marble of Livia Augusta in the character of Ceres; Hercules and Flora, by *Rysbræck*. In the portico are Alexander and Pompey (antique), and on the outside Ceres and Minerva. The counties of Wilts and Somerset meet in the centre of the building, and

on the hill to the W. of it is an ancient *camp*, of 7 acres, formed by a double line of ramparts. The path now turns in the direction of the house, and affords a view of the *cascade*. Beyond it is reached the foot of a dense wood, first planted on the naked down by Sir R. C. Hoare, where, midway on the hill, stands the *Temple of the Sun*, designed after that at Baalbec, and commanding a bird's-eye view of lake and garden. Trees of fantastic growth next claim attention, and the visitor ascends again to the beautiful Bristol Cross, from which he started.

Alfred's Tower occupies a magnificent point of view called **Kingsettle**, one of the loftiest of the greensand hills, 800 ft. above the sea. It is plainly seen from all parts of the neighbouring counties, and every visitor should ascend it. The key will be found at the adjoining lodge, which commands an extensive view to the S. It is 3 m. distant from the house, but strangers are not allowed to drive to it through the park; they will pursue the old British road, or **Hardway**, by which Alfred is supposed to have advanced from the fastnesses of Selwood to the attack of the Danes. The tower was erected by Henry Hoare, Esq., about 1766, in memory of that event, and is a triangular building of red brick, 150 ft. high, flanked at each corner by a slender tower. The entrance is on the E. side, surmounted by a colossal statue of Alfred and a tablet bearing the following inscription: "Alfred the Great, A.D. 879, on this summit erected his standard against

Danish invaders. To him we owe the origin of juries, the establishment of a militia, the creation of a naval force. Alfred, the light of a benighted age, was a philosopher and a Christian, the father of his people, the founder of the English monarchy and liberty." The roads down the hill are very beautiful. 1 m. S. of the tower rises an enormous mound, vulgarly called **Jack's Castle**, long considered as a beacon, but originally sepulchral, Sir R. C. Hoare having found in it the remains of a warrior buried with his weapons.

Stourhead is the name given to this place since its purchase by the Hoares. It was originally called Stourton, and belonged to a family of that name as early as Edward I.'s reign. John Stourton was created Baron Stourton in 1448. In Queen Anne's reign Edward, the twelfth lord, sold it to Sir Thomas Meres, Knt., from whose heirs it was purchased, in 1720, by Henry Hoare, Esq., founder of the London banking-house and ancestor of the present proprietor.

For the remarkable story connected with the Stourtons, the murder of the Hartgills by Charles, Lord Stourton, in the reign of Queen Mary, 1556, see Rte. 8, p. 239.

Kilminster Ch. lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of Stourhead. It has a fine lofty tower, groined within. This manor belonged to the Crown, and was granted by Edward I. to the Le Ports, from whom it passed to the Hartgills mentioned above. Close to Kilminster S. is **Blackwater Spring**, one of the sources of the *Wylye*, and in

West End Wood, 1 m. W., is the source of the *Brue*. 1 m. N.E. is the **Long Knoll**, 973 ft. above the sea, the extreme W. point of the chalk of Salisbury Plain.]

Proceeding on our route, we pass at

109 m. rt. Buckhorn Weston.

110 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. we cross the **Cale**, flowing from Wincanton, and $\frac{1}{4}$ m. further the **Bow Brook**, which, uniting their waters below, are joined by the Lidden near Stalbridge. Here we enter Somersetshire, and continue in the county till we pass Milborne Port.

112 m. **Templecombe Junction** Stat. [Here the S.W. Rly. crosses the Somerset and Dorset line from Highbridge and Burnham, on the Great Western line to Wimborne and Poole (Rte. 19), forming a communication between the Bristol and English Channels.]

Templecombe takes its name from a commandery of the Knights Templars, the only establishment held by them in the county, to whom it was granted c. 1185. Some small remains are still to be seen in the garden of the *Manor-house*, now a farm S. of the village, confined to portions of the walls, some windows, and a doorway of the *chapel*.

113 m. rt. **Stowell** has a manor-house retaining many original features, rewarding notice. It has been despoiled of its oak panelling and other ancient portions removed elsewhere. One

of its Perp. windows is to be seen in the dove-cot at Horsington Rectory. The manor belonged to the family of Hody, one of whom was Lord Chief Justice in 1441. He is classed by Lord Campbell among those who "do not call for any particular remark." The Hodys sold it in 1720 to Robert Knight, the cashier of the South Sea Company. On the bursting of the "Bubble" Knight had to fly the country, and Stowell was sold to George Doddington in 1723.

114 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Milborne Port** Stat., 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of the town of that name. Close to the station is the very large earthwork of **Milborne Wick**, a natural peninsula fortified by a mound on the only assailable side. The town is a small collection of cottages, with a manufacture of shoes, and highly respectable for its antiquity. It returned representatives in the reign of Edward I., and not again till that of Charles I., but was disfranchised by the first Reform Act. The *Ch.* is a massive cruciform structure of Norm. date, with an embattled tower rising from the centre, on two circular and two pointed arches. The nave and N. transept were rebuilt in 1867. There are painted windows by Clayton and Bell, and one by O'Connor. The W. end is of Anglo-Saxon character. The N. side of the tower and S. side of the chancel are ornamented with intersecting arcades. The N. transept contains the monuments of the Medlycotts.

The *Guildhall* has a Norm. doorway. In the street are the socket and steps of an ancient *cross*.

Milborne Port during the Rebellion was occupied for some time by Cromwell's soldiers, who, it is said, stole the Bible from the church. This so incensed the inhabitants that they rose to a man and drove the soldiers from the town.

Ven (Sir E. B. Medlycott, Bart.) lies close to the town, S.E. The scene is exceedingly pretty; a branch of the Yeo winds beneath the wooded crescent of **Henover Hill** on its course to Sherborne Castle. Ven is a red-brick mansion, its front inlaid with stone, and its wings pierced by large archways. It is attributed to Inigo Jones.

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. is **Charlton Horethorne**, the *Ch.* of which has a good pinnacled tower, and is worth notice. A N. chapel of superior workmanship belonged to the prior of Kenilworth, the impropiator of the rectory.

The top of **Bullstake Hill**, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., commands extensive views E. and W. Shaftesbury and Alfred's Tower are conspicuous in the former direction.

At 115 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. the rly. crosses the river *Yeo*, and re-enters Dorsetshire.

116 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. l. the site of **Oborne Church**, which has been pulled down with the exception of the chancel, used as a mortuary chapel, over the window of which is an inscription. A new church has been built in another position. The woods of *Sherborne Castle* cover the hills on the l., which sweep round to Sherborne in the form of a crescent. Passing through the

suburb. of *Castleton*, the traveller reaches

118 m. ★ **SHERBORNE** (Pop. 5001), a clean town of stone houses, the resort of sportsmen during the hunting season, the neighbouring district being hunted by as many as three packs of hounds. It is pleasantly situated on the S. slope of a steepish hill descending to the valley of the Ivel or Yeo. Its general appearance is quaint, and "the quiet aspect of its grey stone buildings, with stone-tiled roofs and mulioned windows, lying pleasantly among gardens and orchards," impresses the visitor very favourably. To the archæologist it is very attractive, for besides the church, and the remains of the abbey buildings incorporated with the school, Sherborne retains a fair number of ancient houses, though too many (including the famous *New Inn*, figured in Parker's "Dom. Arch. of the Middle Ages," ii. 348) have of late years been destroyed, or new-fronted and otherwise spoilt. The principal street, still bearing its A.-S. name of *Cheap Street*, descends the hill from the N. *Long Street* intersects it at right angles, and runs up E. to *Castleton* and the gates of the old castle. The ground on the S. side of the river and of the rly. rises rapidly, and is laid out in public walks commanding a wide view. The richly wooded park and lake to the S.E. is a very agreeable feature in the surrounding landscape.

The town takes its A.-S. name *Scireburn* from the transparent waters of the Yeo, or Ivel (A.-S. *scir burne*=bright brook), which flows in the valley.

As usual, little is known of its early history; but in the time of King Ine, A.D. 705, it was chosen as the seat of a bishopric. In the days of William of Malmesbury it was, as it seems always to have been, a small place. He calls it a *viculus*, and says that it was "pleasant neither by multitude of inhabitants, nor by beauty of position," and adds that "it is wonderful, and almost shameful, that a bishop's see should have remained for so many ages." The first Bishop of Sherborne was the learned Ealdhelm (see *ante*, Malmesbury, Rte. 1). Twenty-six prelates succeeded him here, including Asser, the biographer and friend of Ælfred the Great, A.D. 900. The line of bishops of Sherborne ended in Herman, who (1078) removed the see to Old Sarum, but the castle continued to be an episcopal residence until it fell into the hands of the Crown after its siege by Stephen in 1139. It was dignified by being made the burial-place of two kings, Æthelbald and Æthelbert, the brothers of King Ælfred. It suffered severely from the ravages of the Danes, by whom it was burnt and plundered. Its prosperity gradually was increased through the establishment of the cloth manufacture, and the traffic of the great western road, which made it in Leland's time "the most frequented town in the county." Later on button and lace-making were introduced, and in 1740 *silk-throwing*, which is now its only manufacture, employing a large number of hands. Sherborne is the "Sherston Abbas" of the "Woodlanders," "Tess," and other of the Wessex Novels. "Lady Baxby" in a "Group of Noble Dames," a traditional tale, mostly fact, has Sherborne Castle for its scene.

The ★ **ABBEY CHURCH** of St. Mary the Virgin (5 minutes'

walk to the N. of rly. stat.) is the chief object of attraction, and will repay a long and careful survey. "It is a Norm. church, rebuilt and recast so that nearly all of it has become Perp." (*E. A. F.*), of which style it exhibits one of the richest and most beautiful examples. Its restoration, by the munificence of the last Earl Digby, his heir, the late G. D. Wingfield-Digby, Esq., and the present J. K. D. Wingfield-Digby, Esq., M.P., of Sherborne Castle, has invested it with a degree of splendour almost unparalleled.

The whole church, with the exception of the Lady Chapel, was restored by the late Mr. Carpenter and his pupil, Mr. Slater. The work of the nave and transepts, commenced June, 1848, was completed in 1851, at the cost of nearly £14,000, more than one half being borne by Lord Digby. The cost of the restoration of the choir and its aisles, nearly £18,000, was borne exclusively by the late Mr. Wingfield-Digby between 1856 and 1858.

Sherborne was never a church of the first rank, either in design or dimensions. It has, however, the finest fan-vault that exists, and the exterior of the choir has very high claims to notice. Its low central tower, with its insignificant pinnacles and want of picturesqueness of outline, renders the exterior heavy and uninviting; nor are the faults of design atoned for by imposing magnitude. The length of the church from E. to W. is only 200 ft., that of the transepts from N. to S. 95 ft.; the height of the tower is 109 ft., that of the roof 60 ft. But on

a nearer view many of its defects of form disappear, and the exceeding richness of the interior and the magnificence of its recent ornamentation fully redeem its external deficiencies. The whole is built of the rich-tinted and fine-grained Hamhill stone. The church was founded in or about 705 to be the cathedral church of western Wessex. The chapter was probably one of secular canons. In 998 Bp. Wulfrey II. turned this chapter of secular canons into a Benedictine house; the bishop being abbot, as at Canterbury. In 1075 Bp. Herman removed the bishop's stool from Sherborne to Old Sarum, but the bishop continued to be Abbot of Sherborne till 1122, when Bp. Roger gave Sherborne an abbot to itself, distinct from the bishop. That this date is right is certain, first because Abbot Thurstan of Sherborne (the first abbot who was not bishop) witnesses a charter of Henry I. to the church of Exeter in 1123, and secondly because in 1139 Bp. Roger was quite otherwise engaged. "It is essentially a Norm. church entirely transformed, the nave and presbytery into the Perp. style. The transepts, tower, and other appendages still retain Norm. characteristics, with E.E. insertions and additions, especially a portion of a fine Lady Chapel at the E. end. The Perp. work is of an unusually grand and beautiful character, and has the advantage of being accurately dated."—*Willis*. The walls of the transepts show Norm. masonry, and one of the round-headed windows may be seen in the clerestory of the E. side of the S. transept. The Perp. clerestory

of the nave and choir is unusually fine and lofty. The latter is supported by flying buttresses springing from rich crocketed pinnacles. One of the most interesting features of the exterior is, or rather was before the alteration, the Norm. S. porch attached to the westernmost bay of the nave. This was rebuilt from the ground by Mr. Carpenter during the restoration in 1850. In the lower part the stones were accurately replaced, but the upper portion, or *parvis*, which had been made to harmonize with the general design of the exterior when the nave was rebuilt by Abbot Ramsam, was unhappily restored in the Norm. style after a modern design. The W. window is a fine Perp. composition of nine lights.

At the W. end of the church are the remains of the parochial church of **Alhalows**, consisting of the whole of the wall of the N. aisle up to the window-sills, and four responds or semi-pillars engrafted into the W. front of the minster. The style is Dec. or Early Perp. These remains indicate a three-aisled church of six bays in length, the easternmost being occupied by a vestibule common to the two churches, communicating by doors now built up. Alhalows had a tower, which was sold when the parishioners secured the abbey church, as was all the rest of Alhalows, several houses in Sherborne containing stones, window-joints, etc., from it.

The abbey church of Sherborne was granted by Henry VIII. to Sir John Horsey, by whom it was sold to the parishioners for 100 marks, at the dissolution of the

monastery, which took place on March 18th, 1539. The abbey site, church, domestic buildings, and demesne lands were devised by the King to Sir John Horsey by lease, dated Jan. 4th, 1540; Sir John afterwards bought the freehold. He sold the abbey church to the parish at a cost (including lead and bells) of £250; 100 marks being paid as earnest money. On this, there being no further use for Alhalows Church, as we learn from Leland, it was taken down.

A quarrel between the monks and parishioners was the cause of the fire which partly destroyed the church. The former had, amongst other things, narrowed the door of communication between the two churches (still to be seen at the W. end of the S. aisle), to the great annoyance of the latter, who vented their spite by unseemly ringing of bells, disturbing the morning sleep of the monks, who, after finishing matins and lauds, went back to bed again. Here it may be noted that the parish had a "ring" of its own in the tower of Alhalows, now gone. This did not stop the feud. Till after the fire the legal parish church of Sherborne was in the nave of the abbey church, and it was in the nave of the abbey church, not in Alhalows, as the parishioners would have preferred, that children were baptized "as of immemorial custom." The dispute was referred to Bp. Neville in 1436, and he held his inquiry in the Abbots' Hall at Sherborne, on Nov. 12th, 1436; giving his decision against the parishioners on March 25th, 1437. "A stout butcher" of Sherborne, named Walter Gallor, siding with

the monks, took upon himself to break the illegal font, which exasperated the townspeople so much that, in Leland's words, "the variance grew to a plain sedition, until a priest of Alhalows shot a shaft with fire into the top of that part of St. Mary Church that divided the east part, that the monks used, from that the townsmen used; and this partition chancing at that time to be thatched in, the roof was set on fire, and consequently all the whole church, the lead and bells melted, was defaced." The re-edification of the church had been begun by Abbot John Brunyng, the abbot before Bradford. Bradford was busy with it when the fire took place, hence the marks of fire on the Perp. work of the choir and on the Perp. addition to the tower. The fire, however, rendered further building necessary. The whole eastern limb was rased to the ground, and the present *choir*, "a fine and magnificent design of the period" (*Willis*), erected in the time of Abbot Bradford, 1436-59, the townsmen being forced to make amends for the destruction they had caused by contributing to its building. After the choir was completed, the *nave* was reconstructed in the Perp. style by Abbot Peter Ramsam (or de Rampisham), 1475-1504. The nave did not suffer from the fire at all, as is evident from the licence granted to Abbot Bradford to acquire lands in mortmain to the value of £10 a year on account of the fire. The date of the licence is 1446, and the amount of damage is there recited. Its Norm. piers were not therefore taken down, but recased, as at Winchester, in

the later style, and surmounted by an entirely new clerestory. The *transepts* retain their Norm. masonry, with the insertion of large Perp. windows. The N. transept is vaulted; the S. has a timber roof of the end of the 17th century. Three of the *tower arches* obtrude their plain Norm. semicircles into the midst of the richness around them. The fourth arch to the E. was boldly removed by the rebuilders of the choir, so as to leave the fan-vaulting uninterrupted.

The church is usually entered by the **Norm. S. porch**. The interior presents a splendid effect, chiefly due to the unusual magnificence of the fan-vaults, which cover the whole church with the exception of the S. transept, all ablaze with gilded ribs and bosses, and gorgeous heraldic decorations, among which the arms of Sherborne Abbey and the see of Salisbury may be noticed. Part of the W. wall is of pre-Conquest date, the small blocked door at the W. end of the N. aisle showing "long and short work." The nave is divided into five bays by panelled arches of irregular width owing to the retention of the Norm. piers, which are simply cased in the Perp. style. Part of the original Norm. pier may be seen at the first respond on each side. The vaulting-shafts are supported by angels bearing shields, and shields also occur at the apex of the arches, bearing the rebuses of Abbot Ramsam (a ram and the syllable *sam*), Bp. Langton, and the arms of Sherborne and Milton Abbeys. The **S. aisle** is known as **St. Mary's aisle**; that to the **N.**, the **Trinity aisle**, has the only Dec.

windows in the church. The glass of the great W. window was restored by Hardman in 1841.

Moving eastwards, we reach the **transepts**, and notice the three heavy Norm. arches supporting the **tower**. It will be observed that the transept arches are narrower than the other pair, and are stilted to bring their beams to the same level. The *belfry* story, now hidden by the rich fan-vault, was originally open as a lantern. The Norm. arcades, though walled up, may be seen inside. The huge cylindrical Norm. buttress filling up the E. angles of the W. tower piers, and the Norm. arches opening from the aisles into the transept, should here be noticed. Here we may mention that the *great bell*, recast in 1866, was the gift of Cardinal Wolsey, who, in the early part of his career, was rector of Limington, near Ilchester. It was the smallest of seven brought from Tournay; the others were given to Lincoln, Exeter, Oxford, etc.

The **N. transept** contains a magnificent organ, by Gray and Davison, the tones of which peal gloriously beneath the vaulted roof. The bosses of this ceiling are the finest in the church. On the E. side of the transept is a small chapel, retaining Norm. walls and traces of work of the same date, known as the **Wickham Chapel**.

The **S. transept** has a framed roof of black Irish oak. The S. window is one of noble dimensions, filled with glass by Hardman after a design by Pugin, illustrating the "Te Deum." On the W. wall is a cumbrous monument to John Digby, Earl

of Bristol (d. 1698), with statues of himself and two wives by *Nost*, an Italian sculptor, and an epitaph by Bp. Hough. Below the "Te Deum" window a tablet to the memory of two children of William, Lord Digby, challenges notice by an epitaph from the pen of Pope.

The **choir** presents a tout-ensemble of unusual magnificence, with its intricate-traceried roof, glowing with rich colour, its painted windows, its panelled walls, gorgeous with polychrome, its sculptured reredos, metal candelabra and gates, carved oak stalls, ten of the old misericord seats belonging to the monks being still in their places as stall seats, and encaustic tiled floor. The general impression is one of harmonious richness. The visitor will notice the deep Indian red of the stonework, the effects of the conflagration, which contributes no little to the general richness of effect. The altar or martyr window and those of the clere-story, are filled with painted glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell, of London. In the former are represented the Entry into Jerusalem, the Agony and Betrayal, the Ecce Homo, the Bearing the Cross, the Crucifixion and Resurrection, and in the tracery the various orders of martyrs; in the latter life-size figures of saints, etc., and of the bishops of the ancient see of Sherborne. The reredos, a rich work of Caen stone, forms a framework for two large subjects in alto-relievo, designed by Mr. Slater, the Last Supper and Ascension; and near it is a monumental brass in memory of the late Earl Digby, to whose munificence the present

beautiful appearance of the nave is mainly due.

Adjoining the N. choir aisle is an E.E. chapel with an eastern triplet, known as **Bp. Roger's Chapel**. This is now used as a vestry, and contains some of the incongruous monuments that formerly disfigured the church. This has been "ingeniously formed by building two E.E. walls to form N. and E. sides, and utilizing the E. wall of Bp. Roger's Chapel and the N. wall of the aisle, decorated with the external Norm. intersecting arcades."—*Willis*. In this aisle are some remains of early monuments, including mutilated effigies of two early abbots, one of which is that of Abbot Clement, 1163. There is the tomb of another abbot in the Lewston (St. Catherine's) Chapel. In the procession path behind the high altar lie the West Saxon kings Ethelbald and Ethelbert, elder brothers of Alfred.

The Horsey monument in the Wickham Chapel has upon it two male figures, viz., Sir John Horsey, who died in 1546, and the second Sir John Horsey, son of the first, who died in 1564. The monument was set up by Dame Edith, wife of the younger Sir John. *Sir Thomas Wyatt*, the poet, is buried in the church, but there is no monument to him. He is entered in the register as buried in the Horsey vault, and a statement of the money laid out at his funeral for bell-ringing, etc., appears in the parish accounts. Here also rests Bp. Ealhstan. In St. Catherine's Chapel is a canopied tomb, with effigies to John Lewston (d. 1584) and his wife Joan.

The E.E. **Lady Chapel** to the E. of the choir escaped the conflagration, and is noticed by Leland as "an old piece of work that the fire came not to." The opening of the Lady Chapel to the church was by a fine E.E. arch, now blocked; the centre not coinciding with that of the choir, the corbels of the fan-vault of the procession path are out of symmetry. It was of three bays; two were pulled down at the dissolution, and the remainder, together with a fragment of Abbot Ramsam's Chapel of "Our Lady of Bow," at the E. end of the S. aisle, was converted in 1560-1 into a residence for the master of the Free School, recently refounded by Jewell, then Bishop of Salisbury, whose shield is seen in the very picturesque S. façade of the building, beneath the royal arms, he being a subscriber, though Sherborne was then in the diocese of Bristol. The E.E. vaults of the Lady Chapel, and the rich fan-traceried ceiling of the later chapel, may be seen in the upper rooms of the house which is now used as a dwelling-house by one of the assistant masters, a new residence having been built for the master.

After the abbey church the chief object of attraction to the visitor is the **school**, which consists of buildings occupying five courts. The school is no doubt as old as the cathedral church, and was merely refounded in 1550 by Edward I. The names of three headmasters of the pre-Reformation school are known, and it is clear that St. Stephen Harding was educated in Sherborne School in the 11th century. Under a succession of able and

energetic headmasters, Sherborne Grammar School has gained a well-deserved reputation as one of the leading public schools of the S.W. of England. The remains of the abbey buildings, which lay to the N. of the church, after centuries of desecration, were in 1851 presented by Edward, Earl Digby, to the governors of the *school*, and have been incorporated in its buildings. The present dining-hall of the schoolhouse is on the site of the old school, as the deeds show. They consist of the **Guesten Hall** (erroneously called the refectory), long used as a silk mill, subsequently the school-room, and now the **library**, running northwards from the N. angle of the W. front of the Abbey Church; the **Abbots' Hall** (at right angles to the Guesten Hall), now the *school chapel*, consecrated in 1855, extended 1865, to which the N. or **Harper Aisle** was added 1878 and prolonged 1881, in commemoration of Dr. Harper, Principal of Jesus College, Oxford, for twenty-seven years the headmaster; and, to the S.E. of the chapel, the **Abbots' Lodging**, now converted into studies. The *Guesten Hall* and *chapel* are Perp., with fine oak roofs, standing upon a restored vaulted Norm. substructure. The **Abbots' Lodging** is a singularly picturesque building, with a fine canopied doorway, now blocked, and niches, with remains of the evangelistic symbols. The **library** contains, among other curious and valuable books, a remarkable series of Bibles in Irish, Gothic, Red Indian, and other languages, the musical collection being remark-

able for the rarities which it contains. Amongst these are the musical works of Orlando di Lasso, and in the same volumes are five other musical works, among which are Ballets by Gas-toldi for five and six voices, printed at Antwerp in 1601, the only complete set known to exist. The British Museum has an odd canto part, and at Bergamo there is an alto part, but all the parts are here; also "Paradiso Musicale," a collection of Italian madrigals for five voices, published at Antwerp in 1596. This is the only complete set possessed by any library. Wolfenbüttel has four parts, Ghent three, and Copenhagen one, but all five are here.

There are two entrances to the school precincts: that for the general public to the N., where the visitor will find a porter's lodge and obtain the keys of the chapel, library, etc., and a private entrance to the headmaster's house to the S., close to the E. gate of the church close, contiguous to the old Lady Chapel. Over this latter doorway is a Latin couplet recording the foundation of the school. Passing through this doorway, another curious Latin inscription may be read, and if possible deciphered, by the visitor, on the S. face of the **old schoolroom**, built in 1670 (now the dining-hall of the *schoolhouse*), and containing a statue of the royal founder. The distich is from the pen of Mr. John Goodenough, headmaster 1670-84. The sum of the capital letters will be found to make up the date of the erection. The chronogram is remarkable for this, that it gives two dates. If the letters are

taken in pairs, it gives 1550, the date of the refoundation by Edward VI.; but if they are added anyhow, the date is 1670, when this room was rebuilt.

On entering the school quadrangle, formerly the abbey garden, by the porter's lodge, we have on the W. side of the area, now the principal court of the school, a very stately **new school-room**, with its long line of roof picturesquely broken by tall gabled windows, erected 1879 from the designs of Messrs. Carpenter and Ingelow. Facing the entrance S. are the **school chapel** and the **Abbots' Lodging** (see above). Stretching along the E. side is the **headmaster's house**, with dormitories, etc., attached. Beyond this, E., are the **Bell Buildings**, erected by Dr. Lyon in 1835, now forming part of the schoolhouse and connecting it with the old schoolroom (see above). At the S.W. corner of the court a small inner quadrangle is formed by the chapel, library, and a picturesque block of **classrooms** connected with the new schoolroom by a cloister. Still further to the W. are workshops, a laboratory, lecture-room, museum, five courts, and a large swimming-bath, supplied by a running stream.

To the S.E. of the church is one of the gateways of the abbey, beyond which, at the bottom of Cheap Street, stands the **abbey conduit**, erected by Abbot Frith, 1349-71, groined within, bearing the escutcheon of Sherborne Abbey. It has generally been supposed that Sir J. Horsey moved the conduit to its present position, but there is no

authority for this belief. Sir John leased it to the almshouse in 1554, and then it stood in the old place; the almshouse transferred their lease to the school in 1574. In 1629 the school governors bought the freehold. There is nothing to show when it was moved, except that it was done before 1574. Probably the Master and Brethren of the almshouse were responsible for it. The S. side of the abbey close, facing Half-Moon Street, is occupied by the *Church-house*, an ancient but mutilated building deserving notice.

The old *vicarage*, an interesting 14th-century building, has been pulled down.

After the church and school the most interesting object in the town of Sherborne is the **almshouse**. The old almshouse of Sherborne was not the Hospital of St. John, as is sometimes incorrectly stated. Some of its accounts exist, and here it is described simply as the *Domus Eleemosinaria*. It was refounded in 1437 by royal licence, and then called the Hospital of St. John the Baptist and St. John the Evangelist. The buildings are a very good example of their class, including a hall below, with dormitories over each opening to the E. into a chapel, the whole height of the buildings parted off by a screen. Some good glass remains in the S. windows. Additional buildings in excellent style by Mr. Slater were erected in 1865. In one of the rooms is a triptych of the Flemish school representing our Lord's three acts of raising the dead and other of His miracles.

St. Thomas a Becket's Chapel, in the higher part of the town, preserves some traces of antiquity.

The **Yeatman Memorial Hospital**, erected 1865 in memory of the Rev. H. F. Yeatman, of Stock House, in the upper part of the abbey precinct, harmonizes with the general architectural character of the town.

Pack Monday Fair is held at Sherborne on the Monday after Old Michaelmas Day, the anniversary of the completion of the nave by Abbot Ramsam, when, according to the tradition, the workmen were ordered to pack and be off by midnight on Sunday, and now annually the clock's striking twelve is followed by a din of horn-blowing, clattering of tin kettles, and other rude instruments of music. There was, however, a Pack Monday Fair at Sherborne long before Abbot Ramsam's day. It dates from Edward I. in all probability.

King Ælfred must have been here from 860 to 878 at the time when his brothers, Æthelbald and Æthelberht, and Æthelred also, at least to some extent, made Sherborne their headquarters at the time that Winchester was devastated by the Danes.

William Englebert, "an incomparable Ingeneere and much used in the eighty-eight," was born in Sherborne and educated at the school (the eighty-eight = 1588). Sherborne was also the birthplace of *Joseph Towers*, a learned divine (b. 1737); and here the tragedian *Macready* found a retreat from the stage and devoted himself to

the educational improvement of his poorer neighbours. A number of the published letters of Charles Dickens were addressed to the tragedian at Sherborne, and bear reference to his interest in its welfare.

After inspecting the church and school the traveller should proceed up *Long Street* to the ruins of the **castle**, to the E. of the town. The entrance to the castle is at the lodge by *Castleton Church*, a small Queen Anne building. The castle occupies a rising knoll of rock capped with gravel, at the junction of brooks, forming a natural defence, one of which now feeds the ornamental water.

The castle was from the 8th century the principal residence of the bishops of Sherborne, and was confirmed to the see of Sarum by William the Conqueror. The existing castle was the work of Bp. Roger, 1107-42, Henry I.'s warlike chancellor, the great church and castle builder of his age. The Bishop having espoused the side of the Empress Maud, his castle was seized by Stephen 1139, retaken by Maud, and retained in the hands of the Crown under various pleas for 200 years. In 1337 it was alienated by Edward III. to Montacute, Earl of Salisbury, from whom it was recovered by Bp. Wyvil in 1355. The Bishop challenged the Earl to wager of battle. The champions were appointed, and the day fixed, when a compromise was effected, the Bishop securing possession of the stronghold of his see for the payment of 2500 marks. In 1375 he died at his castle, in defence of which he had proved himself a "pugil intrepidus," as he is styled on his brass in Salisbury Cathedral, which

bears a rude representation of this stronghold. In the spoliation of the church that followed the accession of Edward VI. it was made over to Protector Somerset, but restored subsequently to the see, and finally alienated to Sir Walter Raleigh by Bp. Cotton as the price of his promotion. Raleigh before his conviction settled the estate on his son, but an accidental flaw in the deed enabled James I. to wrest it from him and bestow it on his minion Carr, Earl of Somerset. It is said that Lady Raleigh begged the monarch on her knees to spare her son's heritage, but his only reply was, "I maun hae the lond; I maun hae it for Carr." On Somerset's conviction for Overbury's murder the land reverted to the Crown, and was granted by James to Sir John Digby, twice ambassador to Spain, created Earl of Bristol 1618. In the Great Rebellion it was one of the first fortresses attacked by the Parliamentarians, and one of the last to hold out for the King. In 1642 it was held by the Marquis of Hertford for the King against the Earl of Bedford. The Earl's sister, Lady Anne Digby, who was then staying at the lodge, rode to her brother's quarters and told him, if he persisted in his purpose of demolishing the castle and lodge, "he should find his sister's bones buried in the ruins." The siege continuing, the Marquis was hard pressed, and offered to surrender on conditions. If they were not accepted, he threatened to place Lady Anne as a flag of defiance on the battlements. On the fifth day the Earl raised the siege. In 1645, Sir Lewis Dives, Lord Bristol's stepson, being governor, after a siege of 16 days, it was taken by Fairfax on his triumphant progress through the west, who found in it so much plunder that he held a fair on the occasion. Sir Lewis

Dives, Sir John Strangways, 55 gentlemen, and 600 soldiers, were taken prisoners. The castle was then destroyed, in the language of the time "slighted," by order of the Parliament, and with a part of its materials were built Castleton Church and the wings of the present mansion. The last incident of any consequence that occurred at Sherborne Castle was the visit of the Prince of Orange, who slept in the modern mansion on his road from Torbay to London, 1688.

The castle is entered by the **gatehouse**, "a very peculiar and interesting structure, certainly Norm." (*G. T. Clark*), picturesquely clothed with ivy. A Norm. chimney-shaft at the N.W. angle deserves attention. The windows are Tudor. The remains of the castle are chiefly confined to the solid walls of the **keep**. A very noble cylindrical pillar still stands, the former support of the floor of the hall above, which has perished, and there are some dark barrel-vaulted apartments of the substructure. Of the **chapel**, which projected at right angles to the N.E., with a vaulted basement for stores, the walls alone remain, that to the S. ornamented with an intersecting arcade resembling that in Bp. Roger's work in the minster. On the N. is a good Norm. window, and there are remains of the E. window with a bold chevron moulding. The chapel was on the upper story, and the traces of the projecting staircase are still visible. Another building, also of two spires, projects S. at right angles to the chapel. The basement was barrel-vaulted. The upper room may have been the hall.

Passing through the castle green, verdant banks clothed with wood and shrubbery slope down to the lake, enlivened by numerous swans, on the S. side of which rises the present **castle** (J. Kenelm D. Wingfield Digby, Esq., M.P.), formerly known as "the Lodge," a quaint and picturesque structure. The regular way of approach to it and the park is from the other side of the river. The house is not usually shown; but the exterior may be seen by all, as there is a public footway through the park. The ground-plan is in the form of the letter **H**, consisting of a centre and two far-projecting wings, the former built by Sir Walter Raleigh 1594, the latter by the Earl of Bristol after the Restoration. The entrance into the courtyard is by an arch of Hamhill stone, surmounted by the crest of the Digbys, an ostrich holding a horseshoe in its beak, a device which originated in the vulgar notion that this bird could digest iron. Over the central doorway appear the arms of Sir Walter Raleigh, with the date 1594. The house contains several portraits of the Digby family, including one of Sir Kenelm Digby, the Countess of Southampton, by *Cornelius Jansen*, and a full-length of Dogget, the actor, by *Murray*, also the Procession of Queen Elizabeth, a noted picture by *Mark Gerrard*, of Bruges. It probably represents Elizabeth in a sedan-chair as she was carried to Blackfriars to the marriage of Lord Herbert and Anne, daughter of John, Lord Russell, June, 1600, by six noblemen of her court, Lord Cobham carrying the sword of

state before her, Knights of the Garter walking in advance, and ladies following in the train. There is an alternative theory that it was at Hunsdon, whither Queen Elizabeth had gone to grace the nuptials of one of her relatives. The furniture and fittings of the interior are in admirable keeping.

The **park**, of over 1000 acres, rises steeply to the S. and is well wooded. Towards the E. side are a number of huge old oaks, perfect giants of their race. It is a delightful place for a long ramble, every now and then rousing the herds of deer from the fern. The platforms will be noticed among the branches of the trees where the keepers are posted to bring down a stag. The deer-park proper alone contains nearly 400 acres. The view from **Jerusalem Hill** (on which is a clump of Scotch firs planted by Pope) is very wide and beautiful. The pleasure-grounds near the house, where, in the words of Pope, who visited "the good Lord Digby" here and described the place in a long letter to Martha Blount, "you lose your eyes in the glimmering of the waters under the wood, and your ears in the constant dashing of the waves," were laid out by the famous "Capability Brown." A stone seat is pointed out as the spot where Raleigh was in the habit of smoking, with a lower stone for the bowl of the pipe to rest on. The dairy contains a Roman tessellated pavement discovered on Lenthay Common, doubtless the site of a Roman villa.

The tourist should not omit to walk past the school cricket-ground to the **cemetery**, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. from the town, for the sake of the splendid mortuary chapel, in the Italian-Gothic style, of Hamhill stone, with columns of Devonshire, Irish, and Italian marble, erected by the late Mr. G. D. Wingfield Digby at an immense cost. The arch of entrance is richly carved, and encloses a bas-relief of the Resurrection. Within is a bas-relief of the entombment of Christ. The windows are filled with stained glass, and the sacrarium is paved in mosaic.

The country round Sherborne is agreeably diversified with hill and dale, naked downs and sheltered valleys, and it may be chosen as a centre for rural walks and drives by a tourist with time at his disposal.

PLACES NEAR SHERBORNE.

(a) **Trent**, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W., N. of Babylon Hill and 4 m. from Yeovil, where Charles II. lay concealed for more than a fortnight after the battle of Worcester. It was from this place that he made his unsuccessful attempt to escape at Lyme, under the guidance of his host, Colonel Wyndham. Trent **Manor-house** (A. Baillie, Esq.), the property of Mrs. Seymour, is but a portion of the old building, containing Lady Wyndham's parlour and the King's hiding-place in the roof, carefully preserved.

The **Church**, originally belonging to Studley Priory, in Warwickshire, is a very interesting building, which has received some splendid decorations from the munificence of a former rector, the Rev. W. H. Turner. It has, to the S. of the nave, a tower and stone spire (Dec.)—a very unusual feature in this district—and a polygonal baptistery (a modern addition) at the W. end. Nearly all the windows are filled with stained glass, principally modern. The rood loft and screen remain, and are remarkably rich. The bench-ends are good, particularly four inscribed "Ave Maria." Notice especially the "Flight into Egypt." The carved oak pulpit was brought from Belgium. The bas-reliefs represent various scenes from our Lord's infancy and childhood. The N. chapel (Dec.) is entered through an arch painted with laurel branches and leaves, among which are forty shields, representing the alliances of the families of Coker and Gerard. At the N. end are two stone effigies, one in armour, cross-legged (probably Roger Wyke), the other a very singular one, partly in military, partly in civil costume. There is also a monument to Sir Francis Wyndham, who, as Colonel Wyndham, concealed Charles II. in his mansion of Trent. In the chancel is a curious monument to Tristram Stork (1532).

A fragment of a cross, with a cylindrical shaft and steps, stands in the churchyard, adjoining which is a picturesque chantry-house, built by John Frank, Master of the Rolls, temp. Henry VI., and another stands a little further

from the church. The Church Farm is another building, containing some ancient portions, which should not be missed.

(b) 3 m. N. is the pretty village of **Sandford Orcas**, with a very picturesque and well-restored **manor-house**, with old-fashioned gardens, bowling-green, turf steps, and terraces (Hubert Hutchings, Esq., J.P.). The hall is a fine room, lighted by a large oriel window containing heraldic glass. It contains a fine oak screen. The *Ch.* has been almost rebuilt, but retains Dec. windows and an E.E. lancet in the chancel, a S. chantry with a richly-panelled roof, and a curious E.E. circular font. There is a singular monument to William Knoyle, the former possessor of the manor (d. 1607), and his two wives. The manor derives its name of Orcas from the Norman family Orescuitz, who formerly held it. Bp. Godwin, the author of the "Catalogue of the English Bishops," and of the "Man in the Moon" (d. 1633), was at one time rector.

(c) 4 m. S.E. is **Purse Caundle**, with a small Perp. church. On the N. is a mortuary chapel of the Longs. A canopy once covering the effigy of William Long (d. 1524) now shelters the altartomb of John Hoskyns and his wife (d. 1714), and several monumental brasses. The "ingenious" Dr. Nathanael Higmore, celebrated by Boyle for his researches in physiology, an eminent physician at Sherborne (d. 1685), lies buried here. N.W. of the church is a large ancient mansion chiefly of the time of

Elizabeth, absurdly miscalled "King John's House." The hall is entered by an arched porch. Half-way up the stone staircase leading to the upper floor is a well of never-failing water. Dr. Peter Mews (d. 1706), the military bishop who commanded the royal artillery at the battle of Sedgemoor, successively Bishop of Bath and Wells, and of Winchester, was born in this parish (1618).

(d) **Stourton Caundle** (1½ m. S.S.E. of last) has an E.E. church, with tower, containing a monument to one of the Stourton family. The chapel of the old manor-house still exists, and retains a piscina and bell-turret, though now used as a barn. *Haddon Lodge* (D. H. Serrell, Esq., J.P.) has a fine position.

(e) 5½ m. S.E. is **Bishop's Caundle**, a good small Perp. church, well restored. The church of **Holwell**, formerly on an island of Somersetshire, ½ m. further S., stands very picturesquely on the bank of a branch of the little river Lidden. The N. aisle has a rich oak roof.

(f) 2½ m. N.E. **Poyntington Church** has a Norm. door, and the recumbent effigy of a knight of the Cheyney family. There is also an alabaster monument, with kneeling effigies of a knight in armour and his lady, to George Tilly and Mary his wife.

A caricature of a Gothic apse of foreign design has been unfortunately added to the church, which has in other respects suffered much from restoration. There is a *manor-house* of Late

Tudor style, with a gatehouse forming one side of a quadrangular court, and remains of the hall and detached kitchen opposite. The *parsonage* has four windows of Early Perp., once lighting the hall.

Poyntington was in the 17th century the residence of Chief Justice Malet, who, for his loyalty to his royal master, suffered severely in purse and person. He was thrown into the Tower, where he was kept till the Restoration. There is a memorial to him in the church. In June, 1645, a sharp engagement took place here between the loyal country-folk and the Parliamentary soldiers of Sherborne. The battlefield is still marked by the graves of the slain.

The rly. continues along the valley of the Yeo, or Ivel, and passes close to the noble church of **Bradford Abbas** l., which may be conveniently visited from Yeovil Junction Stat., 1 m., or Yeovil Stat., 2 m. The village takes its name from the broad ford over the Yeo, and its distinctive appellation from the Abbot of Sherborne, to whom it was given by King Alfred, and who had a mansion at Wyke, about 1 m. E., the site of which is moated. There is a large stone barn, close by the rly. line, strongly buttressed, 90 ft. long. The house bears the date 1650. *Bradford Ch.*, which has been carefully restored, is Perp., and well deserves notice. The tower is one of the finest in the county, about 90 ft. high, divided into four compartments, supported by graceful buttresses, lessening as they ascend, and surmounted with

pinnacles. The W. front is richly decorated with eleven canopied niches, only two retaining mutilated statues. The chancel is poor, but there is a S. chapel with a pedimented doorway which deserves notice. A screen of Hamhill stone divides the nave and chancel. The panelled roof, ornamented with red and white roses indicating the date, was completely restored in 1890. The woodwork is excellent. In the churchyard is a mutilated cross of rich design.

This parish is united with that of **Clifton Maybank**, 1 m. W. The church has disappeared, together with the greater part of the mansion of the Horseys, of whom this was the seat from the time of Richard II., by marriage with the heiress of the Maubanks. The present house, of the end of the 15th century, is only one wing of the original mansion. It has a rich open parapet along the front, and a good oriel window projecting from the end gable at a very unusual height, ornamented with the Tudor rose and the horses' heads of the Horseys. The front is divided by small turrets. The annexed buildings contain a loopholed stair-turret, and some original fireplaces, and a good panelled door. Inigo Jones designed a gateway for the mansion, which, when the house was dismantled, was removed to Hinton St. George. Some very rich panelled work was transported to Montacute House, where it forms an ornamental screen connecting the wings.

122½ m. **Yeovil Junction** and

124 **Yeovil**, on a branch line running N. ("Handbook for Somerset").

ROUTE 13.

SOUTHAMPTON TO WEYMOUTH BY WIMBORNE MINSTER, POOLE, WAREHAM (CORFE CASTLE), AND DORCHESTER (ABBOTSBURY).

(*L. & S.W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
35 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Southampton. Wimborne.
	Wimborne.
39 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Broadstone.
43 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Poole.
44 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Parkstone.
48 m.	Bournemouth.
	Wimborne.
42 m.	Hamworthy Junction.
45 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Wareham.
	Wareham.
4 m.	Corfe Castle.
10 m.	Swanage.
	Wareham.
50 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Wool.
55 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Moreton.
59 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Dorchester.
65 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Upwey.
69 m.	Weymouth.

[For the rly. from Southampton to Ringwood, see "Handbook for Hants."]

4 m. from Ringwood Stat. the rly. crosses the Moors river, which divides the counties, and at *Westmoors Junction Stat.*, 30 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from Southampton West, enters Dorsetshire, and crossing Hampreston Heath, one of the wild desolate tracts, not wanting in many elements of the picturesque, which characterize the S.E. part of the county, reaches at

34 m. l. Little Canford, in the rich valley of the Stour, and at

35 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. ★ **WIMBORNE** Stat. (Pop. 6203). The ancient town of Wimborne, the Vindogladia of the Roman itineraries, more famous in the early West Saxon annals than in later times—Leland writes, "It hath bene a very large thing, and was in price in the tyme of the West Saxon kings"—stands in a valley, the *Stour* flowing on the S. side of the town, and the *Allen* or *Win* to the E., joining the Stour a few yards above Canford Bridge. It is a clean, neat, and pleasant town, and figures as "Warborne" in "Two on a Tower." The Somerset and Dorset Rly. branches off here by Blandford to Templecombe and Glastonbury, and joins the Great Western at Highbridge.

The ★ **MINSTER**, which gives its name to the town, is a cruciform building, with a Trans.-Norm. tower of red sandstone (from quarries near Ringwood) at the intersection, and a second tower, of Perp. date (1448), at the W. end of the nave. These towers group most picturesquely from nearly every point of view, and give the church a majesty of outline hardly warranted by its size. The double use to which it was applied is indicated by its form. The central tower of the true minster type, and the western tower of ordinary parochial character, point at once to its twofold purpose as a collegiate and parish church. The structure is one of great singularity and beauty, and will repay a lengthened examination. It has suffered restoration, which, however commendable,

has wiped out the charm of antiquity.

The history is soon told. It was founded as a nunnery by Cuthbergh, sister of King Ina, c. 700. Ælfred's elder brother Ætheldred was buried here in 871. His son Æthelwald, the pretender, in 901 seized the town and shut himself up in it against his cousin Eadward the Elder, who was encamped at Badbury. Hopeless of success, he fled in the night, leaving one of the nuns he had carried off and married, who was sent back to her convent. In 962 a certain King Sigeforth, possibly a Danish prisoner, killed himself, and was buried here. Secular canons took the place of the nuns before the Conquest; the change is attributed to Eadward the Elder, c. 920. It continued a collegiate church till the Reformation. The deanery was generally held in plurality by some bishop or distinguished nominee of the Crown. Among the deans were John Mansell, chaplain to Henry III.; Kirkby, Bishop of Ely, 1286; Gilbert Keymer, Dean of Salisbury and Chancellor of Oxford (d. 1463); Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, a great favourite with the Lady Margaret and Hornby, her executor; and in 1517 Reginald Pole (afterwards cardinal and archbishop), then a lad of 17.

The existing foundation of three clergy, with a staff of singing men and choristers, dates from the time of Elizabeth.

The original Norm. church consisted of a nave of four bays and a choir of two, and transepts of only half the present projection. Of this remain the lantern arches, the piers of the nave, and the clerestory brought to light during the late repairs, together with the walls of the transept and choir.

Both of these last have been extended. The singular cylindrical staircase-turret, now projecting into the N. transept, stood originally at its N.W. angle.

The **central tower**, of Trans. Norm., later than the piers which support it, for which it is proving too heavy, was originally surmounted by a stone spire, which fell in 1600. It forms a very noble open lantern of two stories within. The pinnacles and battlements were added after the fall of the spire. The **western tower**, in building 1448-68, though well proportioned, is of a commonplace type, and has no elaborate workmanship.

The most striking part of the interior is the **lantern**. "The small height of the church," says Mr. Petit, "which brings this lantern nearer to the eye, perhaps gives it a grandeur we do not equally recognize in loftier buildings. I do not know an interior more striking in its effect than this portion of Wimborne Minster." Above the lantern the squinches of the spire are still to be seen. The N. transept includes Dean Bembre's Chantry, or *Death's Aisle*, a figure of Death having been painted on the walls. It was added to the original Norm. building in the Dec. period. The **S. transept** has a recess for an altar, a fine Norm. piscina, and an aumbry.

The **nave** contains three pointed Trans. arches richly set with zigzag mouldings, set on earlier piers. The original clerestory may be traced above. The present clerestory is of square-headed Perp. windows; the small arch immediately W. of the tower marks the site of the rood-loft.

the choir having been, as was usual in Norm. churches, under the lantern. Two late Dec. or Perp. bays complete the nave to the W. A lunar orrery at the W. end of the nave displays the moon's phases. A quarter-boy notes the lapse of time with his hammer and bell.

The **choir** is raised on a vaulted crypt, constructed in the Dec. style, beneath the existing E.E. work (compare St. Joseph's Chapel at Glastonbury). The walls of the first two bays are Norm., the eastern extension E.E. The eastern window (filled with rich glass from Italy, given by the Bankes family) is one of great singularity and beauty, "a good example of plate tracery, showing germs of tracery of the developed type. It is, I suppose, unique."—*J. L. P.* The clerestory of the choir is modern. The S. chapel is known as the **Trinity Aisle**, and contains a piscina and a very remarkable monoxylic chest with six locks, also a brass to W. Smith, vicar of Sturminster Marshall (ob. 1587). Note in this aisle also the tomb of Anthony Ettrick, the magistrate who committed the Duke of Monmouth after his capture at Woodlands. Ettrick was buried in a slate coffin above ground, half-way through the S. wall of the aisle, having, so goes the tale, charged his heirs to bury him "neither in the church nor out of it." In the same aisle is the slab of Dean Berwick (d. 1312). A chantry was founded here by Margaret, Countess of Richmond, in 1496. The N. chapel, or **St. George's Aisle**, contains the parish chest and Collett's charity chest, with six

locks, a Renaissance monument to Sir E. Avedale, Knt. (ob. 1606), with effigy in plate-armour, and a mutilated effigy of a knight with the Herbert arms on his shield. The choir was fitted with screens and stalls of rich Jacobean work, erected in 1608 to replace those crushed by the fall of the spire. It is greatly to be deplored that when repaired the supposed necessities of a parish church led to the removal of the gates at the W. end of the choir and the lowering and reconstruction of the very interesting and almost unique examples of church fittings. The sedilia and piscina are very good. On the S. side of the choir is a fine altar-tomb with an effigy of John Beaufort, Duke of Somerset, grandson of John of Gaunt (d. 1444), and Margaret Beauchamp, his wife, erected by their daughter, the Lady Margaret Tudor, mother of Henry VII., who founded a chantry at the E. end of the S. aisle. Opposite is another altar-tomb to Gertrude, Marchioness of Exeter (d. 1556), mother of Edward Courtenay, last Earl of Devonshire. In the pavement near the altar a monumental brass with a regal effigy is said to mark the burial-place of "St. Æthelred, king of the West Saxons, A.D. 873," restored c. 1600. On the S. wall within the W. tower is a brass tablet to the memory of Matthew Prior, the poet, "born at Eastbrook, in this town, 1664, perennis et fragrans." Two daughters of Daniel Defoe, one of whom had married an exciseman here, lie buried in the centre of the N. aisle. The brass eagle bears date 1623. A fine stone pulpit has been

erected in the minster at the cost of Lord Alington.

To the S. is the **vestry**, a groined room with sexpartite vaulting, above which is an ancient **library**. The visitor will remark the iron rods to which the volumes were attached by the chains. Among other curious books there is a MS. of the "Directorium Pastorale," containing on the fly-leaf the date 1343, a very early example of the use of Arabic numerals. A copy of Raleigh's "History of the World" has a hole burnt through the leaves from end to end, caused, so the popular tale goes, by a smouldering spark which fell on the volume while Matthew Prior, then a schoolboy of the place, was nodding over the volume by the light of a candle secretly smuggled in.

The total length of the church is 184 ft., that of the transepts 107 ft. The width of the nave and aisles is 53 ft.; the height of the central and western towers to the battlements is 80 ft. and 87 ft. respectively.

The **Grammar School**, founded by Lady Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and re-established by Queen Elizabeth, occupies a handsome pile of Elizabethan buildings, erected 1851. The Rev. John Lewis, the historian of the Isle of Thanet and of Wicliff, and Matthew Prior, the poet, were scholars of this school.

EXCURSIONS FROM WIMBORNE.

(a) **To Canford and Merly.**

1 m. S. of Wimborne Stat., approached by pleasant green

meadows by the side of the Stour, is

Canford Manor, the seat of Lord Wimborne, built by Blore, in 1826-36, for Lord de Mauley, and in part reconstructed by Sir C. Barry for Sir John Guest in 1848, a new wing containing billiard and smoking rooms having been added in 1887. It occupies the site of the mansions of the Longespées and Montacutes, Earls of Salisbury, of which the kitchens (16th-century, though usually called John-of-Gaunts) still stand, with two stupendous fireplaces and curious chimney-shafts. The rest of the old house was pulled down in 1765, and the house then erected, which has given place to the present splendid structure, became in 1804 the residence of a society of Teresan nuns from Belgium. The tower entrance is remarkably striking, and the hall, with a timber roof, is lofty and well proportioned, and contains some Gobelin tapestries. The dining-room and the whole of the S. front are by Blore, the remainder of the mansion by Sir Charles Barry. There is an interesting collection of pictures by Italian masters in the house, and a gallery contains some Assyrian sculptures brought from Nineveh, and presented to Sir J. Guest, by Sir A. H. Layard. The gardens are much admired, and beyond them are fir-woods intersected by drives which reach nearly to Poole, which was at one time included in the manor. This manor, held by John of Gaunt, has peculiar privileges, extending over the river from Blandford to the sea, and giving right to a fishery, which is exercised

once a year, under the name of the "Royal Draft," or "Hawl." The *Ch.* of **Canford Magna**, picturesquely draped with ivy, stands close to the hall, and though small, offers some interesting features. The original structure was Norm., of which examples may be seen in the chancel windows, the nave arcade, the N. and S. doorways, and the tower, which stands in an unusual position on the N. side of the chancel. The nave was prolonged, with a new W. front, and the porches rebuilt from Mr. Brandon's designs, by Sir Ivor Guest (the first Lord Wimborne), 1876-8. In a side chapel are monuments by *Bacon* to the Willetts of Merley.

Merley House (Miss Wienholt), 1 m., was built 1752-60 by Ralph Willett, Esq., from a design of his own in the Vitruvian style. He decorated the library, containing a well-chosen collection of books, with arabesques and frescoes illustrative of the rise of religion and literature, including the figures of Zoroaster, Confucius, Osiris, Manco Capac, Mahomet, and Moses, and "the venerable author of our own most excellent religion." The interesting collection of pictures by Hogarth and others has been dispersed.

(b) To **Kingston Lacy** and **Badbury Rings**.

2 m. N.W. from Wimborne, on the upper road to Blandford, a road bounded by elms of remarkable size and beauty, is *** KINGSTON LACY**, taking its name from its old lords the Lacys, Earls of Lincoln, seat of

the Bankes family, one of the oldest (of commoners) in England. The house, once the residence of James, Duke of Ormond, built by Sir Ralph Bankes, 1663, and renovated by Barry, who added the tall dormers and chimneys, is a stately mansion of stone, built by Webb from Inigo Jones' designs, with high sloping roof, broken by dormers. The interior exhibits lofty well-proportioned apartments, and a magnificent staircase of white marble, 30 ft. wide. The doors have marble frames. Here are preserved the keys and seals of Corfe Castle, so gallantly defended by Lady Bankes, some beautiful vases, inlaid cabinets, and a choice gallery of Italian and Spanish *paintings*, collected with great discrimination and success by the late W. J. Bankes, Esq. "The paintings of the English and Flemish schools have been long in the family, many of them ever since they were painted."—*Waagen*. The frames of some of the pictures are skilfully carved. No private collection in England has so many valuable pictures of the Spanish schools. In the rich and tastefully adorned **Spanish room**, having walls covered with Cordova leather, and of which the ceiling, designed by *San-sovino*, came from the Contarini Palace at Venice, the central compartment containing the apotheosis of a saint by *P. Veronese*, are, with compartments containing Cupids by *Pordenone*—*Velasquez*: Philip IV., a whole-length, very fine; (2) Philip's family, stiffly-draped infants, in front a dog, in the background the painter (the original sketch

of the celebrated "Las Meninas" in the Madrid Gallery); (3) head of Cardinal Borgia, Archbishop of Seville. *Spagnoletto*: St. Augustine. *Murillo*: St. Augustine receiving inspiration from heaven; (2) an angel holding a cardinal's hat over his head, an admirable picture, a portion cut out of a larger picture, found in the knapsack of a dead French soldier in Spain; (3) Santa Rosa and the Infant Saviour; (4) the celebrated Beggar-boys. *Orrentes*: Moses and the Burning Bush; (2) Samson and the Lion. *Zurbaran*: Santa Justa, a whole-length, fine; (2) another still finer example. *Ribalta*: Virgin and Child, with angels. *Morales*: Christ scourged. *Espinosa*: portrait of Francisco Vives (with a dog), a whole-length. In the **saloon**: *Rubens*: two fine whole-length portraits of the Marchese Spinola, as the bride of the Doge Doria, and Maria Grimaldi, brought from the Grimaldi Palace, Genoa; (2) (*Rubens* and *Sneyders*): Cupids, fruits, and flowers. *Vandyck*: Charles I.; Queen Henrietta Maria; Prince of Wales (afterwards Charles II.); Duke of York (afterwards James II.); Princess Mary (afterwards Princess of Orange); Princes Rupert and Maurice(?); Richard Weston, Earl of Portland. [The *Jansens* and *Vandycks* were rescued from Corfe Castle before its destruction.] *Berghem*: a hilly landscape, "a stately picture." *Raphael*: Virgin and Child, with St. John, in the late manner of the artist. The picture bears the mark of King Charles I., was brought from the Escorial, and has a magnificent walnut frame carved with the arms of

all the former owners. *Titian*: (1) *Omnia Vanitas*, Venus surrounded by jewellery; (2) portrait of Marchese Savorgnano. *Salvator Rosa*: Mr. Altham, cousin to Sir Ralph Bankes, as a hermit in a desert (painted at Naples). *Sir P. Lely*: a Magdalen. **Library**: Mrs. Middleton, who was a Miss Bankes; Sir Ralph Bankes; Lady Jenkinson; Lady Cullen; Mrs. Gilly (the last-named three ladies were all Misses Bankes); Mr. Stafford Betterton as Tamerlane (a drawing); James, the great Duke of Ormond, who died at Kingston Lacy 1688; Lord Chancellor Clarendon; and Sir John Bankes, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas. *Murillo*: St. Gregory; St. Jerome; St. Augustine; St. Ambrose. *Guido*: a ceiling picture of Dawn sending forth Day and Night, "colossal figures of great power of colour." **Dining-room**: *Annibal Carracci*: four mythological pieces, very fine examples. *Tintoretto*: Apollo and the Muses. *Giorgione*: the Judgment of Solomon, an unfinished sketch from the Marescalchi Palace, Bologna, "incomparably the most important of the whole collection." *Waagen*. **Drawing-room**: *J. B. Greuze*: a child reposing on its pillow, full of sweetness and innocence. *Cornelius Jansen*: Ralph Hawtrey and his lady (parents of Lady Bankes). *Van der Velde*: Sea pieces. *Vandyck*: Sir John and Lady Borlase. *Lawrence*: Lady Falmouth. *Reynolds*: Mrs. Woodley. *Romney*: Mrs. Bankes. *Weigall*: Mrs. Bankes. A collection of enamel portraits, chiefly of members of the court of Queen Elizabeth,

by *Henry Bone*, being almost all the enamels this great artist ever painted. They were purchased for a very large sum of money when the parents died. These are all on copper, and form a magnificent collection in themselves. **Staircases:** *Snyders*: horse and wolves; bull and dogs, taken at Madrid by Buonaparte. The house contains numerous works of art besides pictures, including wood carvings, marbles, bronzes, inlaid cabinets, and paintings in arabesque. The garden front of the house faces a wide expanse of smooth-shaven lawn, bordered with noble trees, receding in deep shadowy glades, with several very fine pink and white marble well-heads and bronzes. At the extreme end of the lawn stands an Egyptian obelisk, transferred to this site from the island of Philæ, whence it was removed by Belzoni. Its base was laid by the Duke of Wellington in 1827. At the end of the lawn is one of the finest avenues of lime-trees existing.

Dr. Johnson visited Kingston in company with Reynolds, and astonished its master with his uncouth gestures. "The conversation turning on pictures which he could not well see, he retired to a corner of the room, stretching out his right leg as far as he could before him, then bringing up his left leg, and stretching his right leg still further on. Mr. Bankes observing him, went up to him, and in a very courteous manner assured him that, though it was not a new house, the flooring was perfectly safe. The Doctor started from his reverie like a person wakened out of his sleep, but spoke not a word."

1½ m. further on is the camp of ***Badbury Rings**. This probably British earthwork, planted with firs, and set as a crown upon the point of a naked hill, attracts the attention of a traveller approaching it from the W. The stronghold covers a space of about 18 acres, the diameter across the outermost ramparts being about 600 yards, and that of the central area about 300 yards. The principal entrance is to the W.; at this spot the second rampart is thrown forwards so as to form a flat, oblong bastion, about 80 yards in length. In each of its flanks is an opening leading into the outer area. There is a smaller entrance to the E., which is a mere gap in the ramparts, cut straight through. A third direct entrance, cut through each bank and through the centre of the great bastion, has been supposed to have been cut by the Romans for the easy entrance of their legions and baggage. It is formed by three concentric rings or ramparts, each with its exterior ditch, from which they rise to the height of 30 or 40 ft., the outermost a mile in circumference, wide spaces intervening between the lines of fortification. It was rather a fortified city than a mere defensive stronghold. From the top the panoramic view embraces the Needles and cliffs of Alum Bay, the highland of Purbeck, the woods of Kingston Lacy and Charborough, and the glistening reaches of the Stour. This entrenchment stands on a Roman road which ran hither from Old Sarum, but it was in all probability originally a British work. It is identified by Dr. Guest with the famous "Mons Badonicus,"

the site of the great victory gained by the Britons under Arthur over Cerdic and the Anglo-Saxons, A.D. 520, by which the triumphant progress of the invaders westward received a serious check, but this identification has been challenged by other writers. After the death of Aelfred the Great his son, Eadward the Elder, encamped in it. Æthelwald the pretender had seized Wimborne, but on Eadward's approach he abandoned it, and eventually joined the Danes in Northumbria.

(c) **More Crichel, Woodlands, and Horton.**

To the N. 2 m. *High Hall* (on l.) and to rt. 2 m. *Uddens* (Lieutenant-General J. P. Carr-Glyn).

$2\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Hinton Parva**, the small church almost entirely rebuilt, has a part of the Norm. chancel arch, and contains monuments of the Glyns of *Gaunt's House* (Sir R. G. Glyn, D.L., J.P.), which owes its name to its supposed former connection with John of Gaunt. The present house was built in the Jubilee year of George III., and enlarged in 1887, that of the present sovereign

4 m. on rt. 1 m. **Hinton Martell**. The *Ch.*, rebuilt in 1870, had once as its rector the Rev. Charles Bridges, author of a commentary on Psalm cxix. and the book of Proverbs.

On l. 1 m. **Witchampton**, with a Perp. church, restored in 1832, and tithe-barn.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of this is **More Crichel** (Lord Alington), a fine, well-wooded place, formerly be-

longing to the Napiers, now to the Sturts, burnt 1742, rebuilt by Sir. W. Napier, and greatly enlarged by Humphrey Sturt, occupied by George IV. when regent. The Princess Charlotte was placed here in charge of the Dowager Countess of Rosslyn and the Countess of Ilchester.

The *Ch.* was rebuilt in the Italian style in 1850. It contains some ancient tombs, including one to William Cyfrewast (ob. 1581), and another to his daughter, Dorothy (ob. 1599), also a good old brass.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of More Crichel is

* **Horton**, which was a cell to Sherborne. *Horton Park*, once the seat of the Uvedales of More Crichel, numbering many distinguished members, then of the Sturts, who purchased it 1697, and since 1793 the property of the earls of Shaftesbury, is now occupied by a farmer. An abbey, afterwards a cell to Sherborne, was founded here by Ordgar, Earl of Devon, father of Queen Ælfrith, A.D. 961, mentioned by William of Malmesbury. It is supposed to have been where the church now stands. A singular find of earthen vases and Roman coins took place here in 1875. The *Ch.* is a quaint-looking structure, almost rebuilt 1720, but retaining some fragments of the earlier building, which appears to have been the priory church. There is a remarkably fine cross-legged effigy in Purbeck marble (Sir Giles de Braose, ob. 1305), much resembling that of Longespée in Salisbury Cathedral, on a low altar-tomb, and an effigy of

a lady of corresponding date, both sadly mutilated. In the vestry under the tower is the monument of the notable "Squire Hastings" (d. 1650), aged 99, the son of George, Earl of Huntingdon, the original of the well-known character drawn of him by Lord Shaftesbury, and inscribed beneath his portrait at St. Giles's.

1 m. S.W. of Horton is **Chalbury**, with its little *Ch.*, E.E. with Perp. additions, perched on the summit of a very high eminence, commanding an extensive view from the hills beyond Dorchester on the W. to the Needles on the E. On an eminence in this parish is a tower 200 ft. high, built as an observatory by Humphrey Sturt.

2 m. E. of Horton is the **Woodlands** estate (Earl of Shaftesbury), on which the unfortunate Duke of Monmouth was captured, July, 1685 (Rte. 8).

The circumstances attending the capture of the Duke of Monmouth are thus narrated. Having separated from his companions near Woodyates Inn, where they had been forced to abandon their horses, the Duke, disguised as a peasant, hastened towards the recesses of the New Forest. Pressed by his pursuers, he took refuge in some fields called the "Island," in the midst of a heath, in the parish of Horton. The soldiers soon arrived, and, being informed by a woman that she had seen a stranger lurking in the covert, they searched diligently till night-fall, but without success. The next morning, however, when on the point of departure, one of the troop espied the Duke in a

ditch, half concealed by the fern. He was immediately seized and carried before a magistrate, one Anthony Ettricke, of Holt. He was conveyed under a strong guard to Ringwood, and thence to London. The ash-tree under which he was discovered still stands on the Woodlands estate, in a field called **Monmouth's Close**. The house of Woodlands has been demolished.

(d) To **Charborough Park** (8 m. W.) (see Rte. 19).

(e) To **Bournemouth** and **Christchurch** (see "Handbook for Hants").

Other seats in the neighbourhood of Wimborne not already mentioned are *Henbury House* (6 m. W.) (Mrs. Parke) and *Lytchet House* (6 m. S.W.) (Lord E. B. H. G. Cecil).

To proceed on our route:—

From Wimborne Stat. the rly. runs due S., and leaving Canford Manor on the l. and Merly House on the rt., runs over broad, black, heathy hills, thinly scattered over with firs, crosses the Blackwater, and approaches by an abrupt curve the inlet of *Holes Bay*, *Lytchet Beacon* appearing conspicuously on the rt., to

39 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Broadstone** and **New Poole Junction** Stat., whence a branch runs to

43 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Poole** Stat., whence the line continues to

44 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Parkstone** Stat., and

48 m. **Bournemouth** Stat. ("Handbook for Hampshire").

Continuing the main route, we reach

42 m. **Hamworthy Junction** Stat., where it throws off an arm across the triangular tongue of land dividing **Wareham Harbour**, W., and **Holes Bay**, E., on which is the village of **Hamworthy**, the *Ch.* of which, destroyed in the Parliamentary wars, was rebuilt 1826, and

45 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Hamworthy** Stat., which, situated on the shore of Poole harbour, an extensive estuary that has been scooped out by the sea in the yielding tertiary sands and clays at a comparatively recent period, commands an uninterrupted view of this estuary and its beautiful islands, of the wide heaths which encompass them, and of the bold chalk range, which, enclosing South Purbeck like a wall, has a deep cleft in its centre, in which are seen the ruins of Corfe Castle, standing like sentinels in a gateway.

[N.B. — There are two rly. stations: the *Hamworthy* Stat. is near the quay; the *Poole* Stat. is at the upper part of the town.]

43 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. ★**POOLE** (Pop. 14,765). Poole, a municipal and once a parliamentary borough, returning one member, is an old town of red brick, reminding the traveller of such seaports as Sheerness and Portsmouth. It is an intricate cluster of houses, pierced by a High Street a mile in length, and terminated towards the water by capacious quays well lined with shipping. Poole is the principal seaport of the county. Its trade for a long period was chiefly with Newfoundland, and thence

to the Mediterranean; but this declined immediately on the fall of Napoleon I., and is now nearly extinct. Its chief activity now is in the coasting trade, its imports being timber, grain, and coal, and its exports potter's clay, large quantities of which are sent annually to Staffordshire, London, Seville, Stockholm, and Dordt, and pitwood (fir) for Wales and the north. Within the last few years potteries have sprung into active operation. There is a considerable trade in corn and flour, one of the mills now in operation being most extensive in scale. There is also a good deal of ship-building, some fast yachts having been launched from the yards, and cordage, sail-cloth, and other shipping requisites are made here.

Poole was originally a member of the manor of Canford, and a portion of that parish. Its name does not appear in Anglo-Saxon or Norman times. The first notice of it is William Longespée's charter, long before which, however, it must have existed. By 1224 an embargo laid by Henry III. on all vessels lying in the port of Poole, amongst others, proves that it was a place of considerable maritime resort. The town supplied 4 ships and 94 men to Edward III. for the siege of Calais in 1347. It suffered fearfully in 1349 from the Black Death, the victims of which were buried on the projecting slip of land known as "The Baiter." Leo von Rosenthal, brother-in-law of the King of Bohemia, embarked here on his return to Germany between 1645 and 1647. In 1483 the Earl of Richmond, afterwards Henry VII., was off Poole with the idea of landing to raise the west of England, but finding the

shores too strongly guarded, made off again.

Poole was rising in importance in the time of Leland, who speaks of it as "of old tyme a poore fisshar village in *hominum memoria*, much encreasid with fair building and use of marchaundise."

At the outbreak of the civil wars, Poole declared zealously for the Parliament, and proved a very troublesome neighbour to the adjacent country. In August, 1642, it was summoned in the King's name by the Marquis of Hertford, but the determined spirit of the townsmen forced him to retire. In 1643 the garrison, aided by that of Wareham, defeated Lord Inchiquin's Irish regiment, and two days afterwards carried off £3,000 that Prince Rupert was despatching to Weymouth.

The same year it had part in the unsuccessful attempt upon Corfe Castle (see *post*), as it had in its capture under Colonel Bingham in 1646. In August, 1643, Prince Maurice determined to attack the town, but found its preparations too formidable to venture the enterprise. The next month the townsmen found means to decoy the Earl of Crawford, who was left in command, and his men, under fire, to their grievous loss, the Earl narrowly escaping with his life. In March, 1644, they had their share of disasters, when Sir Thomas Aston, having fallen on 120 of the Parliamentary horse, drove them with great loss into the very port of Poole, laughing at the cannonballs and bullets that were raining thick upon them from the walls. This disaster was retrieved the following October, when the governor attacked 100 of the Queen's horse, and took 40 prisoners with 2 colours.

One of the places of refuge of Charles II. after the battle of Worcester was, according to con-

stant family tradition, at *Upton*, 2 m. W., formerly the seat of the Hileys.

After the Restoration, Poole had the honour of entertaining Charles II. during the time the court was at Salisbury to avoid the plague in 1665. Another royal visitor was Charles X. of France, who landed here August 23rd, 1830, and passed on to Lulworth Castle.

From the position of this town on a labyrinth of creeks, it afforded convenient shelter in former times to a number of very questionable characters, who obtained a living from the sea by other modes than lawful commerce or fishing. Hence it acquired a considerable notoriety, and became the subject of the following doggerel:—

"If Poole was a fish-pool, and the men of
Poole fish,
There'd be a pool for the devil, and fish
for his dish."

One of the most daring and successful of English buccaneers was *Harry Page*, of Poole, or, as he was more commonly called, *Arri-pay*. His enterprises were principally directed against the coasts of France and Spain, where he committed great havoc. On one occasion he brought home 120 prizes from the coast of Brittany. He is said to have "scoured the channel of Flanders so powerfully that no ship could pass that way without being taken." He ravaged the coast of Spain, burnt Gijon, and carried off the crucifix from Finisterre. At last, in 1406, an expedition was fitted out by the kings of France and Spain against him, under the command of Pero Nino, Count of Buelna. It sailed along our southern shores, destroying as opportunity offered, until it reached Poole. Here it landed, and a battle ensued, in which the inhabitants, after a brave resistance, were worsted, and forced to retire, leaving the brother of Arri-pay among

the slain. The enemy returned to the ships with some plunder and a few prisoners, and sailed towards Southampton.

The same dauntless spirit subsequently displayed itself in other romantic adventures. In 1694 Peter Jolliffe, captain of a small hoy, attacked a French privateer three times his strength which had captured an English fishing-boat off Weymouth, forced her to give up her prize, and drove her on shore near Lulworth. For this exploit he received a gold chain and medal from William III. The next year William Thompson, master of a fishing-boat, with only a man and a boy, got the better of a privateer of Cherbourg, with 16 men, which was preparing to attack him, and brought her safely into Poole harbour, receiving also a gold chain and medal from the Lords of the Admiralty. November 5th, 1797, the brig *General Wolfe* of Poole, having been taken by a French privateer, the mate, his man, and a boy, rose against their captors, overpowered them, and brought the brig into Cork harbour. The audacity and determination with which smuggling was carried on along this coast was such that it was with difficulty checked by the Government after a most desperate resistance, marked by some hideous atrocities. The task was rendered more difficult by the wideness of its ramifications, and the large number of respectable people who were involved in the illegal traffic.

Poole is the "Havenpool" in which the scene of "To Please his Wife," one of "Life's Little Ironies," is laid, but it must be confessed that it furnishes very little to interest the passing stranger.

The *Ch.* of St. James, origin-

ally a chapel of ease to Canford, a good building of its type, erected in 1820, contains a monument to Captain P. Jolliffe, the Poole hero. Among the incumbents was Thomas Hancock, a bold preacher of the doctrines of the Reformation in Edward VI.'s reign, whose autobiography has been published by the Camden Society in Nichols' "Narratives of the Reformation." Among the natives of Poole we may notice the Rev. *John Lewis*, author of "The History of Thanet," etc. (d. 1746), and Professor *Thomas Bell*, the naturalist (b. 1792). *William Knapp*, the author of the well-known psalm tune "Wareham" (d. 1768), was parish clerk of Poole. The celebrated Congregationalist minister *J. Angell James*, of Birmingham, born at Blandford, was apprenticed to a draper here. The antiquary may be interested by an old gateway of the time of Richard III. and by the long, low, buttressed building at the quay called the *Town Cellar*, or *Wool-house*. In the *Public Free Library and School of Art* (erected 1887 and enlarged in 1889 and again in 1891), there is a *museum*, which contains, among other things, a good collection of Purbeck fossils and some specimens of the rarer wild fowl shot in the harbour.

The *Guildhall* is a red-brick building with stone dressings, erected in 1761, and contains a portrait of Charles II. in his robes of state.

Poole is situated in the neighbourhood of extensive heaths, and all the higher grounds command a prospect of great beauty,

seen in perfection when the tide fills the numerous inlets. On the one side there is the sea, on the other the estuary, and beyond it the purple moors extending to the downs. The suburb of **Parkstone**, on the road to Bournemouth, is a very lovely spot, claiming a climate equal to Bournemouth, and containing three public parks. On the high levels and spurs of the hills many beautiful villas are erected.

Several delightful **EXCURSIONS** can be made, viz., to *Brownsea Island*, *Corfe Castle*, *Creech Barrow*, the *Agglestone*, *Studland*, *Bindon Abbey*, and *Lulworth Castle*; *Bournemouth* and *Wimborne Minster* may also be visited, and the *Isle of Purbeck* (Rte. 17), by a walk round the coast, returning by rail from Wool Stat. The above-named places are dealt with in this or subsequent routes.

The **harbour of Poole** is a beautiful and capacious estuary, resembling at high water an inland lake, which branches in every direction into the heaths which surround it. It opens into a bay bounded at Studland N. by the bastion-like promontory called the **Nodes**. Beyond this point are the rocks called **Old Harry**. (Old Harry's Wife, another rock, collapsed during a recent storm.) Further round the Foreland is a headland perforated by a rugged archway called **Old Harry's Gate**, then the lofty cavern styled the **Parson's Barn**, and beyond the insulated needle called the **Pin-**

nacle Rock. **Ballard Head** forms the N. horn of Swanage Bay, the oolitic promontory of **Peveril Point** the S., and between it and **Durlston Head** is Durlston Bay. This interesting chalk range, together with Poole Bay and its islands, is best seen from the steamer which runs in summer between Poole and Swanage. The direction and narrowness of the mouth give rise to the phenomenon of two tides in the time commonly allotted to one. The retreating water runs against the ebb tide of the Channel; it is driven back and kept ponded in the estuary until, by its accumulation and the abatement of the Channel current, it obtains an exit. But the rise and fall are very irregular, and even the sailors of the place can never predict with certainty the time of high water.

★ **Brownsea** or **Branksea Island** once belonged to Cerne Abbey, and was the abode of a hermit. It was long used as a deer-park by the families who formerly possessed it. Sombre fir-woods clothe its sides, and at its extreme point E. stands *Brownsea Castle*, first erected as a defence for the harbour in the reign of Henry VIII., strongly fortified during that of Charles I. by the Parliament, but since occupied as a family residence. The Tudor front was added by Colonel Waugh, it was further altered by Mr. Cavendish-Bentinck, and the restoration was completed by Captain Balfour. It was almost completely destroyed by fire in 1896, but has again been rebuilt, and the drawing-room contains a fine 16th-

century marble mantelpiece, which escaped the destruction of the older building. Some years ago Brownsea Island was sold to Colonel Waugh, afterwards notorious for his connection with the "Royal British Bank," so disastrous to himself and others, who, after his purchase, found it to consist mainly of a deposit of potter's clay, in places 70 ft. deep, and in great part fit for use in Staffordshire. Pits were opened here to a large extent. Potteries, a pier, and a tramroad were constructed, and a village and very ornate Dec. Gothic church built. Colonel Waugh also added 100 acres to the island by embankment, and made other improvements. After his defalcation, the estate was offered for sale by order of the Court of Chancery, and, after being for some time in the hands of the mortgagees, was purchased by the Rt. Hon. G. A. F. Cavendish-Bentinck, M.P., from whom it was purchased in 1892 by Captain Balfour, its present owner.

The little E.E. chapel of **Arne** (4 m. from Wareham) stands on a promontory running out into the mud-lands of the estuary, and terminating in a long narrow tongue of land known as *Pat-chins* or *Pagan's Point*. On the top of the hill is a barrow formerly used as a beacon, commanding an extensive view.

Corfe Castle may be visited from Poole. The ruins stand $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from *Wych Passage*, the usual landing-place, and 4 m. from *Ower Passage*. Ower was for a considerable period the principal port of the Isle of Pur-

beck, and the chief, if not the only, quay for the shipping of stone and marble.

After leaving Hamworthy Junction Stat. the rly. crosses the Lytchett Bay, a little beyond which there is a fine view of the Purbeck Hills, with Corfe Castle crowning its mound in the gap. Near this is *Lytchett Heath*, an Elizabethan house built for Lord Eustace Cecil by D. Brandon. The rly. runs across a richly tinted moorland, close to the shore of the bay, to

$45\frac{1}{2}$ m. ★ **WAREHAM** Stat. (Pop. 2141), a municipal and once a parliamentary borough, a town of remote antiquity, in Saxon times one of the most important places in Dorsetshire, whose magnificent quadrangular earthworks stood the brunt of many a Danish invasion; it stands astride the ridge between the rivers Frome, S., and Piddle, N., just above their junction, and a short distance from where their united waters fall into Poole Harbour, at Frome Mouth (a name occurring more than once in the A.-S. Chronicle), and forms the outpost and key of Purbeck, as Corfe does its citadel. War or Var, from which it derives its name, seems to have been the Celtic name of the river Frome.

It is a neat town, with spacious airy streets intersecting it in the direction of the cardinal points, and respectable-looking brick houses; but it is invested "with an atmosphere of dulness so powerful as to be oppressive," and, besides the earthworks and the church, offers little to detain

the tourist. The area within the ramparts of about 100 acres is "a world too wide" for the "shrunk" dimensions of the modern town, and much of it has been ever since Leland's time occupied by gardens.

There are very extensive works for lime and cement, and much potter's clay is exported to America and various parts of the Continent. There is a large brewery, and stoneware, tile, and pipe works.

S. of the town runs the *Frome*, the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck, and navigable as far as this. It has a salmon fishery, let on lease by the proprietors. Above the river stood the castle, the site of which is still pointed out as the *Castle Close*.

In Saxon times it was already a place of note, and it is said that Beohtric, King of Wessex, was buried here A.D. 800. During the period of the Danish invasions those piratical marauders continually landed at Wareham, and made it their headquarters. In 1015 Cnut entered the *Frome*, and having ravaged Dorset, Somerset, and Wilts, and plundered Cerne Abbey, returned hither, and sailed thence to Brownsea. At the time of the Domesday Survey the unfortunate town was in very sunken fortunes, but it revived again under the rule of the Conqueror, who appointed two mint masters here, the same number it had in the time of Aethelstan. The strength of its position brought much misery on the inhabitants during the struggle between Stephen and the Empress Maud. It was seized for the latter by Robert of Gloucester in 1138. The next year Baldwin de Redvers,

one of the Empress's warmest adherents, landed here and seized Corfe Castle. It was taken and burnt by Stephen in 1142 during the temporary absence of the Earl of Gloucester, who on his return with young Prince Henry, then a boy of nine, retook the town and castle, the latter after an obstinate defence of three weeks. In 1146, when Prince Henry was forced to leave the kingdom, he took ship here for Anjou. After this the poor town seems to have enjoyed a breathing-time. John landed here in 1205, and again eleven years later. In 1213 Peter of Pomfret, the hermit, who had foretold the King's deposition, was brought out of his prison at Corfe, and, after being dragged through the streets of the town, was hanged and quartered here.

During the civil wars of the 17th century it again became an object of contention between the two parties, being repeatedly taken and retaken after its first occupation for the Parliament in 1642. The townspeople were chiefly loyal to the Crown. Their "dreadful malignancy" was used as an argument by Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper for the complete destruction of the town, as it would certainly be occupied by the royal forces on the first opportunity, unless it was "plucked down and made no town." The ruin averted then was accomplished 120 years later, July 25th, 1762, when nearly the whole town was consumed by fire; but two years after it rose from its ashes "fairer than before."

There are some small remains of the **priory**, dedicated to SS. Mary, Peter, and Aethelwold, and originally founded by St. Ealdhelm (709) a cell of the Norman abbey of St. Benoit-sur-Leyr, between St. Mary's Church and

the river. The **Castle Hill**, at the S.W. angle of the town above the Frome, marks the site of the stronghold in which Robert de Belesme, Earl of Montgomery, one of the most zealous supporters of Duke Robert's claims, was imprisoned and starved to death by Henry I. (1114).

The **earthworks** are of remote antiquity, and are probably of British construction, but were much altered and strengthened by the Parliament during the civil wars. On the W. side is the "Bloody Bank," so called from the execution of some of the insurgents in Monmouth's rebellion by order of Judge Jeffreys.

Wareham is said to have had eight churches, of which three remain, though only one (St. Mary's) is used for its original purpose. **St. Martin's**, picturesquely covered with ivy, stands on the bank to the l. on entering the town. **Trinity Church**, at the S. end, is used as a school.

***St. Mary's Church**, once collegiate, is worth examination. The body was rebuilt in 1841; the tower and chancel are remains of the former structure. The chief objects of interest are the very curious hexagonal leaden ***font**, adorned with figures of the apostles, of the 12th century, which came from the castle chapel; the double S.E. chapel, with its effigies; and the inscribed stones, supposed to belong to a church of primæval antiquity, built into the new walls. One of these last, at the E. end of the N. aisle, has been read "Catug consecravit Deo." An Armorican bishop of that name was deputed by the

prelates of Gaul, with Germanus, to visit Britain to withstand the Pelagian heresy, A.D. 430. Professor Rhys says that these are old stones built into the wall, and not cut *in situ*. The above reading is incorrect, the true one being—

"Catug c . . .
(f)ilius Gideō." (probably =
Gideonis).

The lettering may be as old as the 7th century, but as to this he is very doubtful. There is a second stone, with what seems much later lettering, inscribed "Gongorie," which looks as if it represented the genitive of a female name, Gongoria, though the combination is strange to him. Above these is a Crucifixion with figures of SS. Mary and John, which originally stood above the N. door. The S.E. chapel deserves notice from the singularity of its construction. It is a low, vaulted room, with an E. window of two lights, piscina, and aumbry, temp. Henry III., is known as ***St. Eadward's Chapel**, and reproduces the little wooden chapel in which the body of Eadward the Martyr was deposited after his murder at Corfe, in the same way as St. Joseph's Chapel at Glastonbury has succeeded to the small wattled church. Above this is a second chapel, entered by an E.E. door high up in the chancel wall, with a pointed window overlooking the high altar. A very remarkable small vaulted ***chapel**, dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, with piscina and sedilia, is formed within a massive buttress at the S.E. angle. It contains a curious five-light stone Roman lamp, similar to that at Wool Church. In the chancel are two

cross-legged effigies, one of which is probably that of Sir Walter de Estoke (ob. 1293), and at the W. end of the church is a stone coffin, said, but without much probability, to have contained the remains of St. Eadward the Martyr. There is also a monument to the *Rev. John Hutchins*, author of the elaborate county history of Dorset, formerly rector here.

At the outbreak of the civil wars Mr. William Wake (grandfather of Abp. Wake), "an honest, merry, true-hearted parson, both a good scholar and a good soldier, and an excellent drum-beating parson," was rector here. For his hard treatment by the party in power see Walker's "Sufferings of the Clergy."

[The following residences stand in the vicinity of Wareham:—*Creech Grange* (Nathaniel Bond, Esq., D.L., J.P.), below *Creech Barrow*, *Holme Priory* (Dowager Lady Meysey-Thompson), and *Encombe* (Lord Eldon), 7 m.; *S.W. Smedmore* (H. B. Piercy, Esq.), 8 m.; *Tyneham* (W. H. Bond, Esq.), 6 m.; *Lulworth Castle* (R. J. Weld, Esq.), 7 m., and *Lulworth Cove*, 10 m.; *Bloxworth House* (Colonel Jocelyn Pickard-Cambridge), 5 m.; and *Charborough House* (Mrs. Erne-Erle-Drax). *Exacum filiforme*, or marsh centaury, a plant of some rarity, may be found on the surrounding heaths. About Stoborough and Arne the *Erica ciliaris* grows, almost to the exclusion of the more ordinary species of heath.]

EXCURSIONS.

(a) To **Corfe**. (This excursion may be prolonged to Swanage, Rte. 17).

Wareham is the most convenient point for the tourist to diverge to visit Corfe Castle. There is a branch line from Wareham Station to Swanage, 10 m., with a station at Corfe Castle, 4 m. The road from Wareham runs direct over the desolate expanse of **Stoborough** and **Creech Heaths**, formed of the lower Bagshot strata. Here *potter's clay* is extracted from numerous pits, yielding annually thousands of tons, which are shipped to Staffordshire and Scotland, to Spain, France, and Holland, and other parts of the world. Clay which retains its white colour in burning is also largely raised for the manufacture of tobacco-pipes and stoneware. Above it are a bed of lignite and veins of clay containing fossil leaves. The railway for the transit of this raw material to the water crosses the road (2 m. from Wareham), and leads on the rt. to one of the principal pits, which is about 60 ft. in depth, and provided with a steam-engine to raise the water and the clay.

Creech Barrow is a conical tertiary hill, almost volcanic in outline, towering over all the other heights, and formerly crowned by a lodge or look-out post for the keepers of the Purbeck forest. The view from the summit is perhaps the finest for colour in the west of England, its predominant feature being an expanse of heath which stretches from the sea to Lulworth Castle,

a distance of 10 m. In combination with this are the silvery surfaces of Poole Harbour and its numerous ramifications; a background swelling up to Salisbury Plain, which is visible on the horizon; the blue sea and promontories of Portland, W., and the Needles, E.; and the rounded masses and grassy flanks of the downs themselves, which, terminating abruptly W. at Worbarrow Bay, and E. at Studland Bay, so completely isolate a part of Purbeck from the rest of the county. At the foot of the hill lies **Creech Grange**, the Tudor mansion of the Bonds, formerly a possession of the Abbot of Bindon. It was built in the reign of Henry VIII. by Sir Oliver Lawrence, and partially rebuilt in imitation of the original structure in 1846. Sir Thomas Bond, of the Creech Grange family, gave his name to Bond Street, London, which he built, writes Evelyn, "to his great undoing." He was a confidential friend of James II., and left England with him. There is a small chapel at Creech Grange built from Norm. fragments of the Cluniac priory of *East Holme*, a cell of Montacute. The remains of a Roman villa were discovered near Creech in 1889. In the distant woods to the W. is *Lulworth Castle*, seat of the family of Weld.

Descending from this airy height, a walk of 2 m. E. along the crest of the ridge, 369 ft. above the sea, will bring the traveller to that convenient gap which forms the gateway of Purbeck, where, in mid entrance, set as a coronet on a knoll, are the beetling walls and rock-like towers of Corfe Castle.

* **CORFE CASTLE** derives its name from the A.-S. *ceorfan*, to cut; its original designation, *Corvesgate*, not referring to the gate of the castle, to the erection of which it is long anterior but to the singular cut or cleft in the line of steep chalk hills which forms the boundary of the Isle of Purbeck, in the centre of which, on a minor eminence, the castle stands.

The earliest mention of Corfe is in connection with the murder of King Eadward the Martyr, A.D. 978, "the foulest deed," as the A.-S. Chronicle designates it, "which was ever committed by the English since they came to Britain." No castle existed here then; but Aelfrith, the queen-mother, had a "hospitium," or hunting-lodge, on the site of the present edifice. According to the received tale, Eadward had been hunting in the neighbouring forest, and having lost his attendants, and being wearied, he stopped at Aelfrith's lodge to obtain a draught of wine. Whilst raising the goblet to his lips he received the fatal stab, some say from Aelfrith herself. His horse, alarmed at the noise, dashed away on the gallop, and dragged the unfortunate prince by the stirrup to the spot where he was found dead and mutilated by the persons sent in search of him. Aelfrith, however, reaped little benefit from her cruelty. She at once removed to Bere Regis, where she had an estate "*sui juris*," says Bramton, to avert the suspicion of having been privy to the deed, but she was haunted by the shadow of the murdered Eadward, and died conscience-stricken at Wherwell, which, with Amesbury, she had founded in expiation of her crime. The ill-fated King's corpse was removed to Wareham (see *ante*),

whence it was translated still uncorrupt to Shaftesbury.

We have no mention of a castle at Corfe till after the Norman conquest, nor does it appear by name in the Domesday record. There was a strong castle here in the reign of Stephen, which was occupied by Baldwin de Redvers in behalf of the Empress Maud in 1139. De Redvers was besieged here by Stephen, who, failing to take the place either by force or hunger, and hearing that Maud and the Earl of Gloucester were on the eve of landing in England, hastily raised the siege. In the reign of Henry II., A.D. 1154, and in the following reigns, sums appear in the royal accounts for repairs. It was a favourite residence with John. He used it for the safe custody of his treasure, of his regalia, and his prisoners. After the suppression of his nephew Arthur's attempt on the throne by the capture of Mirabel, in Poitou, 24 of the 200 leading nobility and knights there taken and sent to England were confined in Corfe Castle, where, it is recorded, all but two died of starvation. Here also were imprisoned Peter, the hermit of Pontefract (see *ante*, Wareham), and a fairer and nobler victim, Eleanor, "the Damsel of Brittany," Prince Arthur's sister, whose possible claims on the English crown procured for her a lifelong captivity. She was immured for several years at Corfe, having as companions two daughters of William, King of Scotland, sent as hostages for peace. In the succeeding reign she was removed to Bristol, where she died, after a wearisome imprisonment of forty years.

In the rebellion of Simon de Montfort this castle was held by the barons against Henry III. for five years. In 1326 it was for a short time the prison of Edward

II., who was conveyed hence to Berkeley Castle, where he was murdered September 21st. His keeper was Sir John Maltravers. The castle was visited in 1356 by Edward III., in preparation for which extensive repairs were made. Passing over a couple of uneventful centuries, it was granted by Edward VI. to his uncle, Protector Somerset, and Elizabeth sold it to Sir Christopher Hatton. It was again sold 1635 to Sir John Bankes, Lord Chief Justice, the ancestor of the present owners, the family of Bankes of Kingston Lacy. On the outbreak of the great civil war, Sir John Bankes having been summoned to the King at York, his lady and children retired to this place for security. They remained here unmolested until 1643, when the Parliamentary forces, having captured the towns on the coast, took advantage of a customary stag-hunt on May Day to despatch a body of horse to surprise the castle; but their plans were discovered in time to close the gates. The committee of Poole, thus foiled, next demanded the surrender of the cannon which the fortress contained, and sent a body of sailors to enforce it; but Lady Bankes, assisted by her daughters, serving-men and women, contrived to mount one of these rude pieces and to fire it against the enemy, who was thus put to flight. She then summoned assistance by beat of drum. But the castle was without provisions or ammunition, and to obtain them she had to beguile the authorities at Poole by the pretence of a surrender. Having completed her arrangements, she despatched messengers to Prince Maurice, who had advanced to Blandford, urgently pressing for assistance, when a Captain Lawrence was sent to take command. The Parliamentary forces soon made their ap-

pearance. Horse and foot, they took post on the adjoining heights, and cannonaded the castle, but with little effect. On the 26th of June they made their grand attack. They came streaming up the hill, under the command of Sir Walter Erle and others, to the number of 600, and, favoured by a mist, obtained possession of the town. From all quarters they opened their fire, and advanced against the castle under cover of two engines called the "Boar" and the "Sow," vociferating that they would grant no quarter. The garrison, however, were not to be intimidated; and they not only returned with interest the musketry and shouts, but sallied from their walls with great success. But an additional force was now at hand to assist the Republicans. A large band of sailors came with petards and grenadoes to join in the assault, and the fight was continued. Twenty pounds were offered to the first man who would scale the wall; strong liquors were distributed; and a brisk cannonade issued from the church, the leaden roof of which had been converted into balls. All rushed to the assault, carrying wild-fire in their hands, and ladders, which they planted, but vainly strove to mount. On every side they were met by a shower of stones or hot embers. Their hopes waxed faint beneath this storm of missiles; the fumes of the wine evaporated, and they were at length compelled to abandon the enterprise, August 4th, 1643. The same night, an alarm being raised that the King's forces were approaching, the siege was raised by Sir W. Erle, who speedily withdrew to Poole. In 1646 Corfe Castle was again besieged by Colonel Bingham, and this time with a different result. A gallant resistance was made, but the stronghold was captured

through the treachery of Lieutenant-Colonel Pitman, one of the officers of the garrison, who admitted a number of the enemy in disguise, February 26th, 1646. The Parliament had no sooner gained possession than it ordered the building to be destroyed, and accordingly the towers and walls were undermined and partly blown up by gunpowder. The keys and seal of the castle are still preserved at Kingston Lacy (see *ante*, p. 473).

Corfe Castle, the Coomb Castle of "The Hand of Ethelberta," occupies an irregular triangle, the walls following the crest of the hill, which descends almost vertically on the E., W., and N. sides. It is almost encircled by two brooks, uniting just below St. Edward's Bridge to form the Corfe river, the rest of the peninsula between the castle and the town being defended by a deep dry trench. The northern or highest point of the hill is occupied by the keep and principal buildings. The *great gateway* caps the southern or lowest angle; the *Buttavant Tower* the western; the *Queen's Hall*, or *Tower*, rises near the eastern angle. The area of about $3\frac{1}{4}$ acres is divided into three wards: the outer, by far the largest, the middle, and inner ward. The architecture shows to a practised eye evidence of the three leading periods of its history, corresponding to the epoch of the Saxon "hospitium," the Norman castle, and Edwardian fortress.

The visitor approaches the ruin from the S. by a bridge of four arches, probably the work of Sir C. Hatton, thrown across

the moat, and enters it through a **gateway**, grooved for portcullises, and with a remarkable cylindrical pipe with an opening in its side, originally formed for the working of a weight as the counterpoise of the drawbridge, on the principle of a modern sash-window, and flanked by two massive round towers pierced for arrows; erected, together with the greater part of the first ward, c. 1280. He then finds himself in the **first ward**, now a wide area of turf, enclosed by a line of ruinous walls and towers, resembling rather a chain of rocks than a work of human hands. The S.W. front, to the l. of the gateway, is the longest, extending 270 yards. The curtain of the lower ward was strengthened on this side by four towers, now rent and shaken, huge fragments resting on the slope below. The S.E. curtain exhibits two semicircular towers. The furthestmost is the **Plukenet Tower**, so called from a well-preserved shield, on the outer face, borne by two sculptured hands, showing the armorial bearings of Alan of Plukenet, constable of the castle in the reign of Henry III., A.D. 1269. Beyond this tower the walls have regular Norm. ashlar up to the **Gloriette Bastion**, the site of the tower of the same name, built by Richard II., which defended the S.E. angle of the inner ward. From the main entrance the ground rises rapidly to the **gateway** of the **second ward**, a very fine structure of Edward I.'s time, reached by a bridge over a fosse, where the force of the powder has produced a remarkable effect. The l. hand tower has been moved bodily

down the hill, but, although 9 ft. below its original position, it is still upright. The archway shows two grooves for portcullises. The fosse by which the lower ward or bailey is traversed towards its upper part is about 20 ft. deep, and is attributed to King John. Beyond this the ground rises precipitously into a rough cliff, on the edge of which rise the fragments of the keep and the curtain walls and towers, undermined and riven by the force of the powder, but still held together by the tenacity of the cement.

Passing through this second gateway, the curtain of the middle ward, strengthened by a semicircular tower in the centre of its length, runs to the octagonal **Buttavant Tower** ("Bout avant," the projecting corner), which caps the western angle, and is a marked object in the outline of the castle. A corbel, once supporting a roof timber, has been absurdly supposed to have served as "the gallows." The curtain between these two towers displays rude herring-bone work, with three plain round-headed windows and the place of a fourth, closed by the exterior casing of the wall in the reign of Henry III. This wall may possibly be a fragment of the Anglo-Saxon palace, the scene of Aelfrith's treachery. The N. curtain of this ward also displays a half-round tower, as well as the seat and drain of a large garderobe under an arch in the wall.

Turning to the rt., we reach the entrance of the **inner ward**, where the gateway is almost totally destroyed, which occupied

the summit of the hill, and included the Norman keep, the Queen's Tower, kitchen and other offices, and a well. The **keep** was a quadrangular tower of pure Norman work of the time of Henry I., with an annexe to the S., rising from the precipitous face of the lower ward which contained garderobes. The stair, 9 ft. broad, starting from the N., is built against the W. face of the tower. Each floor contained a chamber 42 ft. by 28 ft., dark and comfortless.

E. of the keep is the **Queen's Tower**, a work of the latter part of the reign of Henry III., containing the **Queen's Hall** and chapel, constructed on vaulted crypts. Some of the pointed windows of the hall remain. The tracery is gone. They have deep arched recesses, and stone side-seats. The **chapel** runs across the hall to the N. Two doors, excellent both in design and execution, opened at the head of a staircase into the hall and chapel. The former is perfect; of the latter only one jamb remains. One springer of the vaulting of the chapel may be traced in the angle just within the doorway. A depression close to the E. end of the hall is said to mark the castle **well**, which must have been of great depth. At the S.E. angle beyond the Queen's Tower are the massive walls, 10 ft. thick, of another strong tower, identified with that known as **La Gloriette**.

The destruction caused when the castle was "slighted" by order of the Parliament, 1646, the county being taxed to pay for it, probably exceeds anything of the kind known in England. Far more injury was perpetrated than

was necessary for the object of making the castle untenable. The broken-down walls of the keep are an astonishing spectacle, from the huge masses of the fragments and the firmness of their cohesion. "They lie in the wildest confusion, and some considerable lumps have rolled down the slope, and, bounding across road and brook, rest half buried in the turf beyond."

The visitor who wishes for fuller details should consult, for the general architectural history, the admirable essays of Mr. T. Bond and Mr. G. T. Clark in the "Archæological Journal," vol. xxii., also the chapter by the former in the last edition of Hutchins' "Dorset," and for the siege "The Story of Corfe Castle," by the late Rt. Hon. G. Banks.

The village of *** Corfe Castle** consists of three long streets of picturesque stone-roofed houses diverging from a market-place, near the entrance of the castle, where are the steps and platform of the cross. It is chiefly inhabited by clay-cutters. The **church**, dedicated to St. Eadward the Martyr, is a well-designed and admirably proportioned edifice, rebuilt, with the exception of the plain Perp. tower, in 1860. The Trans.-Norm. pillars of the N. doorway supported a Dec. arch; the side lancets of the chancel aisles and several of the windows belonged to the old fabric, but have been spoilt by being retooled. The W. doorway is flanked by niches. On the l., below the market-place, are some picturesque remains of a house of the Uvedales, with mullioned windows. On the E. side of the

Swanage road is an E-shaped gabled house containing some carved oak wainscoting. It was formerly the manor-house of the Dacombe family, and is now occupied by F. Cavendish-Bentinck, Esq., J.P., who has considerably altered and improved it. Corfe Castle formerly returned two representatives to Parliament, who were elected at the base of the old market cross.

1½ m. W. is **Church Knowle**, in which parish stands the very interesting Edwardian house of **Barneston**, preserving the name of Bern, the Saxon thane, who owned it in the Confessor's time. The earliest portions are at the back. There is a handsome double oriel, and an oak-roofed hall, now divided into rooms.

The once cruciform *Ch.* has been much modernized. The tower was rebuilt 1740. There is a canopied altar-tomb in the N. transept to John Clavell, 1572.

At **Kingston**, 2 m. S.W., there is a most sumptuous *Ch.*, erected at the sole cost of Lord Eldon from the late Mr. Street's designs (see Rte. 17).

Encombe, the seat of Lord Eldon, is 3 m. S., *Rempston House*, of the Calcrafts, 2 m. E. towards Studland. *Swanage* is 6 m., and *Studland* 5 m. distant (Rte. 17). The shortest route, and a most charming one, to *Lulworth Castle* is along the top of the downs, about 9 m. W.; *Lulworth Cove* is 2½ m. further (Rte. 17). This range of downs is remarkably rich in barrows, cemeteries, and earthworks.

A beautiful view of Corfe Castle is obtained from the road running

up the hill towards Studland and the Agglestone. The walk along the summit of this ridge, over **Nine Barrow Down** (642 ft. high), is, in point of scenery, one of the finest things in the county.

(b) To the **Heaths** near **Wareham**.

From Wareham a road leads over the heath to *Bere Regis*, 6 m. (Rte. 19). At 1¼ m. it intersects a row of seven barrows. Beyond Stroud Bridge, 4 m. rt., is **Woolsbarrow**, or **Oldbury**, an isolated conical hill crowned with a small but very conspicuous British (?) earthwork, of great natural strength. 5½ m. rt. is the remarkable earthwork of **Woodbury Hill** (Rte. 19).

The series of heaths which, under various names, stretch from near Poole almost to Dorchester, are those described by Mr. Hardy under the name of Egdon Heath in the "Return of the Native," and thus most aptly characterized: "A place perfectly accordant with man's nature, neither ghastly, hateful, nor ugly, neither commonplace, unmeaning, nor tame, but, like man, slighted and enduring, and withal singularly colossal and mysterious in its swarthy monotony. As with some persons who have long lived apart, solitude seems to look out of its countenance. It has a lonely face, suggesting tragical possibilities. This obscure, obsolete, superseded country figures in Domesday. Its condition is recorded therein as that of heathy, furzy, briery wilderness — 'bruaria.' Then follows the length and breadth in leagues; and, though some

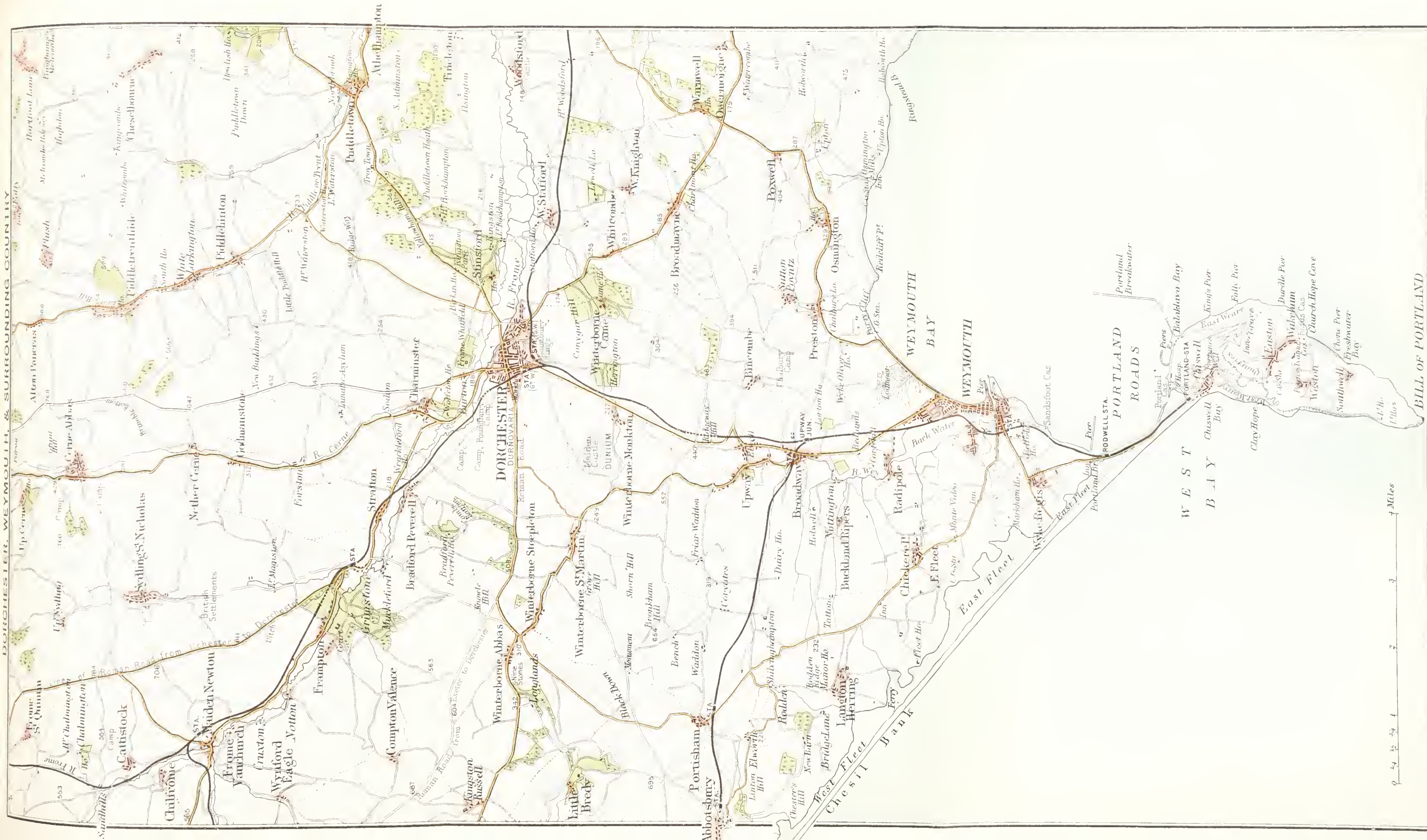
uncertainty exists as to the exact extent of this ancient lineal measure, it appears from the figures that the area of Egdon down to the present day has but little diminished. 'Turbaria bruaria,' the right of cutting heath-turf, occurs in charters relating to the district. 'Overgrown with heath and moss,' says Leland of the same dark sweep of country. Here, at least, were intelligible facts regarding landscape—far-reaching proofs productive of genuine satisfaction. The untamable, Ishmaelish thing that Egdon now was it always had been. Civilization was its enemy, and ever since the beginning of vegetation its soil had worn the same antique brown dress, the natural and invariable garment of the formation. Its surfaces were neither so steep as to be destructible by weather, nor so flat as to be the victims of floods and deposits. With the exception of an aged highway and a still more aged barrow, themselves almost crystallized to natural products by long continuance, even the trifling irregularities were not caused by pickaxe, plough, or spade, but remained as the very finger touches of the last geological change. The above-mentioned highway traversed in a curved line the lower levels of the heath from one horizon to another. In many portions of its course it overlay an old vicinal way, which branched from the great western road of the Romans, the Via Iceniana, or Ikenild Street, hard by."

"Haggard Egdon," as he elsewhere calls it, is glorious in

summer with heath and furze, and its breezy solitary expanse affords an unending variety of splendid walks.

From Wareham the rly. runs along the valley of the Frome, and at 53½ m. passes close to *East Stoke Ch.*, rebuilt 1848, rt., and reaches

50¼ m. **Wool Stat.**, where the traveller may halt to visit the ruins of *Bindon Abbey*, ½ m. E., and *Lulworth Castle*, 7 m. S. (Rte. 17). *Bere Regis*, with its very fine *Ch.* (Rte. 19), is 5 m. N. by a fine heath drive, commanding grand views. At **Gal-
lows Hill**, 2½ m., is an earthwork. At Chamberlain's Bridge, 3½ m., the road crosses the river Puddle. The view from **Wool Bridge**, which is an ancient structure crossing the Frome by five arches, is very pleasing; it commands the woods and obelisk of Moreton. An old ***manor-house** of the Turbervilles, now a farmhouse, stands close to the bridge on the l. bank of the river, where a barn on the rt. is raised on a basement of 14th-century work. This is the house referred to in "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" as that in which Tess and Angel Clare spent the night after their wedding. *Wool Ch.* is chiefly E.E. and Perp. The chancel arch is curious, being in three divisions. The church possesses an interesting brown velvet pulpit cloth embroidered with figures, probably made from a cope, and in the vestry a four-light Roman lamp like that at Wareham. *Hethfelton*, 1¼ m. N., is the seat of the Fylers.



* **Bindon Abbey** lies $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the stat., embowered in fine trees, among copious running streams which once fed the monks' fishponds. It was founded for Cistercians in 1172 by Roger of Newburgh and Matilda his wife. At the dissolution it was granted to Thomas, Lord Poynings, from whose heirs it descended to the Earl of Suffolk, by whom it was sold to the Welds. The buildings have nearly disappeared, but the foundations remain, and the ground-plan of the church, cloisters, and appended buildings can be accurately traced, and conform to the usual Cistercian ground plan. The style of the whole is Trans., of the time of the foundation. The *Ch.* was of the usual Cistercian plan, with a long nave, transepts of two bays, with square chapels opening from them, and a very short eastern limb and a central tower. A fragment of the W. front is standing, with the jambs of the entrance doorways; the bases of several of the cylindrical columns of the nave may be seen, and one of the piers of the crossing, also the walls dividing the transeptal chapels and the bases of their altars, and the foundations of the stone western screen of the choir (which, as usual, projected into the nave), with two side altars. There is a double piscina in the N. transept. There are several empty stone coffins, and in the S. transept is a fine slab, robbed of its brasses, with a Lombardic inscription to Abbot Richard de Maners. To the S. of the church is the cloister court, surrounded with the usual buildings. The buildings on the

E. side are the most perfect. We may distinguish the sacristy, chapter-house, containing monumental slabs, with traces of its vaulting, the slype leading to the cemetery, and the calefactory, or monks' day-room, divided by a row of columns. We may also notice the vestiges of the staircase to the dormitory above. To the S. of the cloisters were the refectory and kitchens, at right angles to the cloisters to the W. the guest-chambers and the lodgings of the *conversi*, lay brethren. A story goes that the twelve bells of the abbey were stolen by night, and are now in the churches of Wool, Combe, and Fordington, commemorated by the following doggerel:—

"Wool streams and Combe wells,
Fordington cuckolds stole Bindon bells."

On the l. of the path from the gateway to the abbey foundations is a building partly built from fragments of the abbey, which contains a Catholic chapel.

Crossing Moreton Heath, with a view N. of the range dividing the valleys of the Frome and Piddle, and S. of the Purbeck chalk hills, we arrive at

55 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Moreton** Stat., standing lonely on the heath 2 m. from the village of that name. **Moreton House**, the property of R. P. Fetherstonhaugh-Frampton, Esq., is a plain stone mansion. It contains some interesting portraits: Charles I. and Henrietta Maria; the ill-fated Henrietta, Duchess of Orleans; "Steenie," Duke of Buckingham; Lady Jane Grey; and Tregonwell Frampton (d. 1728), a celebrated "turfite," keeper of the royal racehorses at Newmarket to

William III., Anne, George I. and II. Built in 1744, Moreton has belonged to the Framptons at least from the reign of Edward III., 1365. An obelisk stands in the park in memory of James Frampton, 1786; on its summit is an urn weighing four tons. The *Ch.* is a curious specimen of Batty-Langley Gothic, 1776, with an apse, and painted windows by Willement.

[**Woodsford Castle**, about 2 m. N.W., the archæologist must by no means omit to visit. It guards the passage of the Frome, but is more of a manor-house than a castle. The manor belonged to Guy de Brian, and afterwards to the Staffords. It is a long low parallelogram, with originally a square tower at each corner. The ground floor is vaulted; the chief rooms are above, including the King's Hall, with an oratory with piscina attached; a solar, or Queen's room, with a squint into the chapel, guard-chamber, ante-chamber, and south hall, containing an ancient fireplace. The beacon tower at the N.E. corner is the only one of the four remaining perfect; it contains a good water-drain. The whole appears to have been built by Guy de Brian, temp. Edward III. It was admirably restored by Henry, Lord Ilchester. The *Ch.* is E.E., and has been nearly rebuilt.]

[**Affpuddle Heath**, with its singular conical cavities, is 2 m. to N.W. of Moreton; and the interesting house of **Athelhamp-ton**, in the valley of the Piddle, 1 m. further W. (Rte. 19).]

57 m. the rly. passes rt. the ivied tower of **West Stafford Church**, rebuilt 1640, with a screen dividing the nave and chancel, and **Stafford House**, a picturesque gabled mansion of the 16th century, much altered c. 1720 (G. W. Floyer, Esq.), and reaches

59 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. ★ **DORCHESTER** (Pop. 7946), the county town, a municipal and once a parliamentary borough. This is a rly. centre. Branch lines of the G.W. Rly. from Yeovil, and of the L. and S.W. from Southampton, meet here. There is rly. communication with Weymouth, S., and by branches from Maiden Newton with Bridport, and from Upway with Abbotsbury, W. The stations are S. of the town.

Dorchester is a thriving town as an agricultural centre. The cloth manufacture which once was carried on here is now extinct, and its prosperity depends on its rank as the county town, and its position as the centre of a wide sheep-breeding and dairy country. About 750,000 sheep are fed on the adjacent downs, and the markets are well supplied with Dorsetshire skim-milk cheese, known as the "blue vinny," or blue-veined cheese, and Dorset butter. The fame of the "Dorset ale" is of long standing. A large and handsome brewery has been built near the S.W. Rly. by Messrs. Pope, Eldridge and Co.

Dorchester is one of the lightest, cleanest, and prettiest towns in the west of England. Its reputation for healthiness is such that Dr. Arbuthnot, who in his early days came to settle here,

was driven away, saying that "a physician could neither live nor die at Dorchester." The town lies on a hill sloping on the N. to the valley of the Frome, and extending on the S. and W. to an open country, across which run the straight lines of the ancient roads still used as highways. It bears evidence of its Roman origin not only in its name, Dornwaraceaster, the *castra* of the Dwrin people, who occupied this district before the arrival of the Romans, but also in the four streets, which, as is usual with towns of a Roman origin, intersect in the centre of the town; and in the earthworks, which, planted with fine rows of sycamore and chestnut, form beautiful *boulevards* nearly encircling the town—a feature unfortunately as uncommon in England as it is attractive. The foreign air thus given is increased by the avenues of trees that line some of the roads.

This town is the "Caster-bridge" of the Wessex Novels, and particularly of the "Mayor of Casterbridge," readers of which may interest themselves in picking out the various objects in and near the town faithfully described in that book. They will recognize the accuracy of Elizabeth Jane's remark that the town is "huddled all together, and shut in by a square wall of trees, like a plot of garden ground by box-edging," though the appearance has been altered by the erection of many new houses outside the walls, especially on the side near the railway. Mr. T. Hardy lives at Max Gate, in the immediate neighbourhood of Dorchester.

Dorchester was long prevented from extending its limits by being hemmed in on nearly all sides by *Fordington Field*, a wide open tract of ground of 3400 acres, held under the Duchy of Cornwall in farthings, or fourthings (the quarter of a hide or carucate), from which it derives its name in its original form of *Fourthington*. The various holdings are known as a wholeplace, a halfplace, and a farthing. No one holds more than 80 acres, and that dispersedly. The town has much increased lately by the purchase of land outside the old boundaries from the Duchy.

The junction of the four streets in the centre of the town is marked by *St. Peter's Church*, with its fine pinnacled tower, and the modern Town Hall, with its angular spirelet. Walks on the rampart or in the fosse run round the W. and S. sides of the town. At the bottom of High Street a pleasant walk leads along the banks of the Frome, with green water-meadows to the rt.; from the extremity of it you may climb up into the town by the new E.E. church, and reach the W. walls, or continue over verdant meadows by *Frome-Whitfield House* (Lieutenant-General Henning) to Charminster.

Dorchester has unquestioned claims to antiquity. It was a British town before the invasion of Cæsar, and was long afterwards known by the Romanized form of its British name Dwrinwyr, as *Durnovaria*. The Romans made it one of their principal stations. They carried roads from it in different directions; and fortified it with walls, which remained in fragments as late as the year

1802, and of which a portion is still to be seen in a garden on the W. walk, a little to the l. of the W. gate. Under the Saxons its name, we have seen, became *Dornwaraceaster*. The Danes are said to have besieged it in 1003, and burnt it to the ground, but this is very doubtful. Its mediæval annals are of little interest. John often visited it.

Several Roman Catholics suffered here in the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., commencing with Thomas Pilchard, hanged, drawn, and quartered in 1583. Four were executed the same day, July 4th, 1594. The visitation of the plague the next year was deemed a judgment for these martyrdoms by the Roman Catholics. In 1613 upwards of 300 houses were burnt, and property amounting to £200,000 was destroyed. Other serious conflagrations occurred in 1622, 1725, 1775. The last was got under by the dragoons of Sir John Cope's regiment, a detachment of which was quartered here. Lord Clarendon records that when the Great Rebellion broke out, a place more entirely disaffected to the King England had not. It was the magazine whence other places were supplied with principles of rebellion. Its deficiency in natural and artificial strength was supplied by the malignant spirit and obstinacy of its inhabitants, by whom it was early (1642) fortified against the King. But their courage failed on the approach of the Earl of Carnarvon in 1643, and the town with all its arms and ammunition was surrendered to him. After this the town lay open to the mercy of the victors, and paid dearly for its malignity when Prince Maurice's troops moved hither. In July, 1644, Lord Inchiquin, who had marched hither from Wareham to occupy it for the King, was repulsed by Colonel Sydenham, and

in a few days the Earl of Essex took possession of the town for the Parliament. Cromwell was here with a large force March 29th, 1645, which met with some rough handling from General Goring. September 3rd, 1685, Judge Jeffreys opened his bloody assize. "The court was hung, by order of the Chief Justice, with scarlet, and this innovation seemed to the multitude to indicate a bloody purpose. More than 300 prisoners were to be tried. The work seemed heavy but Jeffreys had a contrivance for making it light. He let it be understood that the only chance of obtaining pardon or respite was to plead guilty. Twenty-nine who put themselves on their country, and were convicted, were ordered to be tied up without delay. The remaining prisoners pleaded guilty by scores. 292 received sentence of death."—*Macaulay*. Thirteen were executed here September 7th. The formidable judge's chair is preserved in the Town Hall. He lodged in High West Street (Dufall's glass shop).

St. Peter's Church occupies a conspicuous position at the intersection of the four streets, and with its stately Perp. tower, is one of the chief ornaments of the town. The S. door is Trans. Norm. with zigzag. The church is Perp. The arcade of the interior and chancel and tower arches are well proportioned. It contains several interesting cross-legged effigies, sadly maltreated during the last repair in 1857, some being hoisted on to the window-sills. They have not been identified, though they have been supposed to be Chidiocks removed from the priory. A rich Jacobean monument to Sir J. Williams, of Herringston, and

his lady, 1628, has been awkwardly erected against the E. window of the N. aisle. At the opposite end of this aisle is an absurd effigy in full-bottomed wig to Denzil Holles, who, with Sir John Eliot and others, forcibly held down in his chair Mr. Speaker Finch till the House had passed its famous resolutions in 1639, one of the "five members" in 1642, the impeacher of Laud, the brother-in-law of Strafford (d. 1679). The rood staircase remains, and gives access to a fine Jacobean pulpit. Outside the church is a statue of the Rev. W. Barnes, the celebrated Dorset poet and antiquary. He was born at Rushey, a farm not far from Pentridge, in the vale of Blackmore. He was a schoolmaster for some time at Mere and in Dorchester. Looking upon this statue, one cannot but recall his saying, when in great need, owing to the loss of pupils: "What a mockery is life! They praise me, and take away my bread! They might be putting up a statue to me some day when I am dead, while all I want now is leave to live. I asked for bread, and they gave me a stone!" He was subsequently rector of Winterborne Came, having previously been incumbent of the donative of Whitcombe, in the same parish.

All Saints, in High East Street, is a pleasing building, with a lofty spire erected by Ferrey in 1845. The glass in the E. window was a gift from Bp. Denison; that in the W. window is "in loving remembrance of Arthur H. D. Troyte, who fell asleep June 19th, 1857." The church

owes its erection chiefly to Mr. Troyte; much of the work was done by his own hands. Under the tower is an altar-tomb with effigy of Matthew Chubb (d. 1625).

Trinity Church, in High West Street, rebuilt in the E.E. style by Ferrey, 1875, contains a monument to Dr. Cuming, a physician of the town, "who desired to be buried in the churchyard rather than in the church, lest he who studied whilst living to promote the health of his fellow-citizens should prove detrimental to it when dead."

Fordington Church, originally one of Trans.-Norm. style and cruciform plan, has been sadly mutilated, but still preserves features of peculiar interest. The church was restored and greatly improved in 1863. The tower is a good one of the Somersetshire style. The tympanum of the Norm. S. door retains a curious flat bas-relief of the Vision of St. George (to whom the church is dedicated, and who gives its name to the hundred) before the battle of Antioch. There is a small holy-water basin at the S. door, of very unusual form, shaped like a small Norm. font. The pillars of the S. arcade are Norm., supporting Perp. arches. The stone pulpit bears the date 1592. Fordington is a stall in Salisbury Cathedral, once held by William of Wykeham and Abp. Chicheley.

The county gaol occupies the site of the **castle** on a rising ground on the N. side of the town, above the river. Some

small portions of the earthworks may still be traced. A tessellated pavement, 20 ft. square, which, with other Roman antiquities, was discovered while digging a grave for a murderer in 1858, has been relaid as an ornamental floor to the gaol chapel. **Priory Lane**, hard by, preserves the memory of a Franciscan priory, reported by Speed to have been built out of the ruins of the castle by the Chidiocks.

The **County Hall**, in High West Street, is a plain stone building erected in 1745. The **Town Hall**, which stands conspicuously at the intersection of the four streets, is a pleasing building of red brick with spired tourelle, by Ferrey. It has an effective open timber roof, and contains Judge Jeffreys' chair.

The ***County Museum**, a handsome building recently erected in High Street, contains a good collection of local fossils, especially the fishes and testacea, etc., of Purbeck, which is unrivalled, and some unique fossils of the Kimmeridge series. It has also a fine archæological collection, including British and Roman antiquities, coins found at Poundbury during the rly. works, urns, and other examples of early art from the Dorset tumuli, etc. This admirably kept and arranged museum, a model of what a county museum should be, should certainly not be missed by the visitor. Readers of the "Woodlanders" will be interested in the huge man-traps which form part of the collection of Dorsetshire objects. The **Grammar School**, in South Street, founded in 1569,

was rebuilt in the Tudor style in 1879.

The **County Hospital**, a good Jacobean building, by Ferrey, opened 1841, has a chapel built in memory of A. Dyke Troyte by his brother-in-law, R. Williams, Esq., of Bridehead, in 1862. **Napier's Mite** is a small almshouse with a picturesque little cloister and desecrated chapel, founded by Sir Gerard Napier, 1615.

The **Barracks**, on the Bridport road, have an imposing towered gateway. At Charminster, 1 m. N.W., stands the **Dorset County School**, a brick and stone building with chapel and dining-hall. The county lunatic asylum is at *Forston*.

The ***AMPHITHEATRE** called **Maumbury**, and first brought into notice by Sir Christopher Wren when M.P. for Weymouth, lies to the S. of the town, l. of the Weymouth road, in close vicinity to the two rly. stations. The line of the S.W. Rly. as originally planned was carried through the amphitheatre; but it was rescued from mutilation chiefly through the zealous intervention of Mr. C. Warne, F.S.A. It has been generally considered a Roman work of the time of Agricola. It is, however, very different from the amphitheatres existing in Italy, though resembling other Roman amphitheatres, such as those at Silchester and Cirencester, all of which, however, it surpasses in size; it is indeed the most perfect relic of the kind in this country. It is an oval or elliptical earth-

work, formed by excavating the chalk and heaping it around to a height of 30 ft. The area thus enclosed is 218 ft. in length and 163 in width. The rampart rises from the ends towards the centre, where it attains its greatest elevation and breadth, and, according to a calculation by the antiquary Dr. Stukeley, would accommodate as many as 12,960 spectators. Its capabilities were tested in the year 1705, when the body of Mary Channing was burnt here after execution; 10,000 persons are said to have assembled on that occasion. Up to 1767 it was the place of execution of criminals.

From the walk on the W. rampart is seen the camp of **Poundbury**, cresting the head of a hill which rises from the river Frome a few hundred yards from the western gate. Camden, Warne, and others think it was constructed by the Danes on their supposed siege of Dorchester, under Sweyn. The late Rev. C. W. Bingham and others maintain that it is a Roman work. On the whole this seems the most probable solution of the question, though from the shape it seems possible that the Romans may have altered some pre-existing work. It is a tolerably regularly shaped entrenchment, protected by a lofty vallum and ditch, double on the W. side. On the N. the steepness of the hill appears to have been the only defence. The summit commands an extensive view, in which *Maiden Castle* is seen to the S. and *Hardy's monument* to the S.W., and Wolfeton Hall immediately below, E. The hill is pierced by the G.W. Rly.

EXCURSIONS.

(a) To **Maiden Castle, Herringstone, and Winterbourne Came.**

Maiden Castle, properly *Maidun*, "the Hill of Strength," is one of the most stupendous British earthworks in existence, enclosing in its inner area about 45 acres, and covering full 115 acres altogether, rising in conspicuous grandeur to the rt. of the Weymouth road, here coincident with the ancient *Ridgeway* 2 m. S. of Dorchester. This hill-fort was the stronghold of the Durotriges, and may be identified with the *Dunium* of Ptolemy. It occupies the flat summit of a natural hill, entrenched and fortified by human labour. It measures about 1000 yards from E. to W., and 500 from N. to S. The whole is surrounded with two, in some places three, ramparts, 60 ft. high and of amazing steepness. There seem to have been four gates, the entrances being defended by the overlapping ends of the earthworks, and additionally strengthened by outworks. The interior area is divided across the middle by a low bank and ditch. There are traces of a tank or pit to catch and retain water. According to the opinion of General Lefroy, the people who constructed it cannot have been acquainted with any tools like our modern spades with broad, flat blades, but must have employed celts or narrow tools, by which only a small quantity of earth could be removed at a time. It could not be defended in the strict sense of the term, as it would take as many people to

defend it as to make it. Other means besides earthworks must have been resorted to to render the place tenable.

The view from Maiden Castle is very extensive, but bare and not very beautiful. The chief features are the Roman roads diverging from Dorchester and the innumerable barrows that stud the hills. To the S.W. is Black Down, with Hardy's Pillar.

Below Maiden Castle, E., to the l. of the Weymouth road, stands **Herringstone** (E. W. Williams, Esq., D.L., J.P.), a house of much interest, for many generations the seat of the Herring family, which, late in the 16th century, passed to that of Williams. The house, which has been much mutilated, was built by Sir John Williams temp. James I. The drawing-room has a curious coved ceiling richly decorated with plaster bas-reliefs, among which may be noticed the initials "C. P." and the heraldic insignia of Charles I. when Prince of Wales.

Winterborne Came, close to this house, was the parish of which W. Barnes, the Dorset poet, was rector 1862-86. His tomb is in the churchyard, and the *Ch.* contains a carved screen and two recumbent effigies.

(b) To **Wolfeton** and **Charminster**. $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W., in the valley of the Frome, is the very interesting house of **Wolfeton** (W. A. Bankes, Esq., D.L., J.P.), rebuilt by the first Sir Thomas Trenchard, who incorporated portions of an older edifice. The S. front remains entire, the eastern part showing the rich Tudor

style of the time of Henry VII., the western portion the large mullioned windows and semi-classic cornices of James I. added by Sir George Trenchard (d. 1630). The plaster ceilings and carved oak chimney-pieces and doorcases are of great magnificence. The gatehouse has circular bastions and conical roofs. There is a good barn. This house is the scene of the traditional story of the "Lady Penelope" in a "Group of Noble Dames."

Wolfeton is of historic interest as the scene of the foundation of the fortunes of the noble house of Bedford. Philip the Handsome, Archduke of Austria, having with his wife, Joanna, the eldest daughter of Ferdinand and Isabella, and heiress to their dominions, been driven by stress of weather into the port of Weymouth when on their way from the Low Countries to Spain, January, 1502, they were hospitably received at Wolfeton by Sir Thomas Trenchard. Unfortunately the old knight knew no Spanish, and his royal guests no English. In his perplexity he bethought him of his young neighbour and kinsman John Russel, of Kingston Russel (see *post*), who had only recently returned from Spain, and sent for him to act as interpreter. It happened, fortunately for Mr. Russel, that he was gifted with the art of pleasing, for, having ingratiated himself with the royal visitors, he accompanied them to London, and was introduced to Henry VII. as a man of abilities, "fit to stand before princes, and not before meaner men." Thus established at court, he soon rose to high office, and in the reign of Henry VIII. was created Lord Russel, and at the dissolution was enriched with the spoils of the

religious houses. On the occasion of the marriage of Philip II., the grandson of his royal patron, with Mary I., he was sent to Spain to attend the royal bridegroom to England, 1544. He died the following year. On leaving Wolfeton, Philip presented Sir Thomas Trenchard with two bowls of blue and white Oriental porcelain, said to have been the first seen in England, which are carefully preserved as heirlooms, together with fine portraits of Philip and Joan, by the Trenchard family at Greenhill House. One of the bowls is mounted in an original Italian silver-gilt setting, curiously hinged.

At the time of the Great Rebellion Wolfeton was the seat of another Sir Thomas Trenchard, who played an active part in this county as a commander on the side of the Parliament.

From Wolfeton the pedestrian may proceed

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. to **Charminster**, whence he may return by pleasant meadows to Dorchester, 2 m. The *Ch.* has a very fine Perp. tower, bearing on its buttresses the rebus of Sir T. Trenchard, c. 1500. The chancel arch and nave arcades are of Trans.-Norm., and in 1896 four small Norm. windows were discovered in the clerestory. In the S. aisle are three mutilated monuments of the Trenchard family. There is a curious earthwork at the extremity of the village on the rt. The traveller may with advantage continue his walk from Charminster along the barrow-studded hills of *Cerne Abbas*, $5\frac{1}{2}$ m., whence he may strike over Sydling Hill to *Sydling St. Nicholas*, and mounting the down, again descend on *Maiden Newton*

Stat. (Rte. 15), 5 m., and return by rly. to Dorchester—a very agreeable and interesting circuit.

(c) To **Stinsford, Puddletown, and Moreton**. Another circuit of much interest to the archæologist, and displaying wide and varied views, is through the fields to

1 m. **Stinsford**, the scene of "Under the Greenwood Tree," where there is an interesting E.E. church, with a picturesque and highly enriched Perp. S. aisle, and N. aisle rebuilt 1630. On the W. face of the tower is a bas-relief of St. Michael. The churchyard contains tombstones of the Hardy family. *Kingston House*, formerly the seat of the Pitts, now of Mrs. Fellowes, is a classical house, built 1720, and subsequently refaced with stone. *Stinsford House* (Lt. E. S. Parry, Esq.) is the property of the Earl of Ilchester. *Birkin House* (R. D. Thornton, Esq., J.P.).

Puddletown (see Rte. 19), 5 m., thence to **Athelhampton** (Rte. 19), 1 m., and over the ridge into the valley of the Frome at **Woodsford Castle** (p. 515), 3 m., returning to Dorchester either on foot, 5 m., or by rly. from Moreton Stat.

(d) To **Blackdown** and **Little Bredy Downs**. A longer expedition may be made to the heights of *Blackdown*, 789 ft. above the sea, and the *Hellstone*, the *Nine Stones*, and other prehistoric remains on the bare chalk downs about Little Bredy (Rte. 14).

From Dorchester the traveller may pursue his way by rly. to Weymouth, 7 m., or, which is preferable, he may walk, enjoying the wide prospect of down and sea obtained after reaching the summit of the Ridgeway Hill.

Pursuing the rly., the traveller has a fine view rt. of Maiden Castle, nestling on the S. slope of which is the little village of **Winterborne Monkton**, with its small church, originally Norm., containing a carved screen and a monument with recumbent effigy to Ella Williams (ob. 1874).

3 m. the rly. enters **Bincombe** tunnel, taking its name from a village S. of the hill, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. of the line. The small ancient *Ch.* has a circular Norm. font. The view from **Bincombe Barrows** is one of the most extensive in the county. A large camp was formed here during the apprehensions of Napoleon's invasion, often visited by George III. when staying at Weymouth, an incident made use of as the foundation of the story of "The Trumpet-major." Two young German deserters lie buried in the churchyard. They were shot at the cross-roads of the village in 1801, and an entry of their burial is in the church register. This incident has been used in the story of "The Melancholy Hussar," one of the Wessex Tales.

65 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Upwey** Stat.

In a cleft at the foot of the downs is the very attractive little village of **Upwey**, the source of the little river Wey. The *Ch.* has been much modernised. The N. aisle is ancient; the S. aisle

was added in 1838, and the clere-story in 1841. The N. arcade is good Perp., with the initials "I. P." and "A. B." in the foliage of the capitals. The mill at Upwey is well known from the numerous pictures of it which now adorn so many railway carriages. On the downs above, 402 ft. above the sea, runs the ancient **Ridgeway**, from which there is a noble view of Weymouth, Portland, and the neighbouring country.

5 m. rt. is the village of **Broadwey**, where the *Ch.* has a good Norm. door, l. the camp-crowned hill of Chalbury.

The rly. skirts the Backwater which peninsulates Melcombe Regis, and reaches

69 m. ★ **WEYMOUTH** Stat. (Pop. estimated in 1898 at 22,000). This popular watering-place is very pleasantly situated. The coast here, turning to the S., forms a wide open bay, which is shaped in the form of the letter **E**, the projection in the centre dividing it into two parts: Weymouth Bay and Portland Roads. N. of this projecting point (called the *Nothe*) lies the old town of **Weymouth**, and connected with it by a swing bridge across the harbour, formerly the estuary of the little river Wey, from which it derives its name, is **Melcombe Regis**, the modern town, extending nearly a mile along the curving shore. In Leland's time the passage was "by a bote and a rope bent over the haven, so y^t in the fery bote they use no ores." Melcombe Regis is built on a narrow strip of land, with the

sea on one side and an estuary (the **Backwater**) on the other, and commands in long perspective the coast to the E. as far as St. Aldhelm's Head. Its principal feature is the **Esplanade**, formerly the mixen or lay-stall of the town, distinguished by its length and symmetrical curve, on which stands a monumental statue of George III., erected by the townspeople in 1809, in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the accession of their great patron. The Esplanade was nearly destroyed by the fearful storm of November 23rd, 1824, when the sea-wall was completely demolished, and small vessels were driven into the centre of the town. At the extremity of the Esplanade a stone pier continued in wood runs out into the sea, affording an agreeable promenade. Behind the royal monument the two main streets, St. Thomas and St. Mary Streets, run westwards to the bridge and harbour.

Weymouth is distinguished above many of our modern watering-places by the historic interest belonging to it. Æthelstan granted Weymouth to Milton Abbey. In 1042 Eadward the Confessor gave the manor to Winchester, on the traditional deliverance of his mother from the ordeal, a grant confirmed by Henry I. and II. In the reign of Edward I., as the town rose in importance, the monks lost the manor, which formed part of the dowry of Eleanor of Castile. Edward III. was driven in here by rough weather on his return from France in 1343. It supplied twenty ships for the siege of Calais, 1347, and was in return greatly harassed by the French, whose inroads im-

poverished the place. Leland says of Melcombe Regis: "This toune, as is evidently seene, hath beene far bigger than it now is. The cause of this is layid onto the Frenchmen that yn tymes of warre rasid this toune for lack of defence." To render it not worth the burning, Henry VI. transferred its privileges as a port and its wool staple to Poole, a measure which deprived it of much of its former trade. Queen Margaret of Anjou landed here with her young son, April 17th, 1471, the very day of the disastrous defeat at Barnet, on hearing of which she took refuge at the abbey of Cerne. January 10th, 1505, the Archduke Philip with Joanna of Castile, on their voyage from Holland to Spain, were forced to take shelter here, to the great alarm of the inhabitants, who feared that the squadron came with hostile purpose (see Wolfeton House, *ante*, p. 527). In spite of its fallen fortunes, six ships were supplied by Weymouth to the squadron that met the Armada, and one of the Spanish ships taken was brought into this port. During the Great Rebellion it was alternately garrisoned by both parties, and became the scene of some fighting. In 1643 it was occupied by Lord Carnarvon and Prince Maurice, but in 1644 it fell into the hands of the Parliamentary forces, who successfully defended it against an eighteen days' siege by the Royalists. Coker writes in 1653: "Weymouth, as now ytt is, is but little, consisting chiefly of one street, which for a good space lyeth open to the S.E., and on the back of it riseth a hill of such steepness that they are forced to clymbe upp to their chappell by eighty steps of stone, from whence you have a faire prospect of the toune and haven lying under it. From one side you may see Wyke, and Melcombe on the other side, which

much surpasseth the other for conveniency of site, for, standing on a flat, it affordeth roome for building, with a market-place and convenient streets and also yarges for their wares, by means whereof the merchants have chosen this for their habitation, which of late years is fairly new built. These townes now united gain well by traffique into Newfoundland, where they had eighty shippes and barkes, as also by a nearer cut into France, opposite to them, whence they return laden with wines, cloths, and divers other useful commodities, with which they furnish the country." As boroughs, the two divisions of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis were long at open war with each other. The narrow channel of their harbour was as jealously guarded by the contending factions as the boundary of rival kingdoms; and in the reign of Elizabeth, A.D. 1571, their animosity had reached to such a height that the Government interfered and compelled the inhabitants to coalesce and incorporate for municipal purposes, and from that time to the present day their interests have been one as the united borough of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis. As parliamentary boroughs, however, the two towns continued distinct, each returning two members till the first Reform Act, which united them, giving two members to the new constituency, now, by the last Reform Bill, merged in the county representation. Sir Christopher Wren, Sir James Thornhill, and Sir Fowell Buxton, are amongst the celebrated members for the borough.

The popularity of the place at the early part of the century was largely due to the patronage extended to it by royalty, the Gloucester Hotel having been first the residence of the Duke of Gloucester, and afterwards that of George III.

The *tides* on the shore at Weymouth differ from those which prevail along the coast, the irregularity being most marked at the time of the "springs." According to the sailors, there are four hours' flood, four hours' ebb, and four hours' standing water, but this description is scarcely correct. There is generally a secondary tide—a slight flow and reflux—which takes place after the lowest ebb, and is popularly known by the name of the *Gulder*.

There are no remains of the Dominican priory, Leland's "fare house of Freres yn ye este parte of ye toune," founded by John Rogers and Hugh Deveril in the reign of Henry VI. It stood in Maiden Street, and its chapel served as the place of worship of the inhabitants, as a chapel of ease to Radipole, until the erection of the church in 1605. The present **Church of St. Mary** (Melcombe Regis), built in 1817, is a solid but very ugly edifice of Portland stone, galleried all round, with an altar-piece, "The Last Supper," by Sir James Thornhill (d. 1734), a native of the town, which he represented in Parliament.

Trinity Church (Weymouth), opposite the bridge, built in the Gothic of the day, 1836, contains a good picture of the Crucifixion, of the school of Vandyck. At the back stood the old chapel of St. Nicholas, destroyed by Colonel Sydenham's troops in the civil wars, reached by steep flights of steps from the High Street of Weymouth. The *schools* on the steep ridge adjoining form a

conspicuous feature in the view of Weymouth.

St. John's, Radipole, at the northern extremity of the Esplanade, built 1854 in the Dec. style, with a lofty tower and spire.

Christ Church, opposite the rly. stat., has a tower with a low, square spire, which is rather effective.

The **Catholic Church** of St. Augustine is a small building on the Dorchester road.

The **Wesleyan Chapel**, near the Guildhall, is an adaptation of the Lombardic architecture of North Italy

The **Congregational Chapel**, built in 1865, with two spires, is a conspicuous object.

The **Guildhall**, near the bridge, at the corner of St. Mary Street and St. Edmund Street, built 1837, has a Grecian Ionic portico, and contains a marble statue of the late Samuel Weston, Esq. (Theakstone), erected by subscription, and portraits of George III. (Beechey) and the Duke of Wellington (Weigall), presented by Sir J. H. Lethbridge. Above the Mayor's chair is a good piece of oak carving of the royal arms, with the date 1577, brought from the former church of St. Mary.

The **Market House** is in St. Mary Street.

The **Baths** form a handsome building below George III.'s statue, with an Ionic façade in St. Thomas Street. Nearly opposite is the Doric portico of the **Masonic Hall**.

Weymouth became of note as a bathing-place towards the middle

of the 18th century. The first bathing-machine was constructed for Ralph Allen, of Bath, Fielding's "Squire Allworthy," in 1763. The Duke of Gloucester passed a winter here, and built Gloucester Lodge, and his recommendation induced George III., with Queen Charlotte and the princesses, to visit it in 1789. There is an amusing account of the discomfiture of the monarch when on his first plunge into the sea he heard the strains of "God save the King" strike up from an adjoining bathing-machine. This incident, it will be remembered, is introduced into "The Trumpet-major." In others of the Wessex Novels Weymouth figures as "Budmouth." The royal family became partial to Weymouth, and resorted to it for many years, occupying the present Gloucester Hotel. The Princess Charlotte was here in 1814 and 1815.

William Pitt and his elder brother, and his sister Hester, were residing at Weymouth with the Rev. E. Wilson when their father was called to the House of Lords. The "little William," then seven years old, expressed himself as "perfectly happy" in retaining his father's name. "I am glad," he said, "I am not the eldest son. I want to speak in the House of Commons like papa." —*Stanhope's* "Life of Pitt," i. 3.

The chief charm of Weymouth lies in its beautiful bay and smooth and level shore. It is also the centre of a district of much geological interest, to which Mr. Damon's excellent work on "The Geology of Weymouth and the Isle of Portland" will prove an admirable guide.

The **Nothe**, the green promontory which rises from the mouth of the harbour, is reached in a few minutes from the Esplanade, either by the swing-bridge or a boat. It commands a wide and beautiful view of Portland and the bay. It has been converted into a battery fitted with Armstrong guns for the defence of the harbour and roadstead. The whole is cased in stone to obviate the frequent landslips. During the Rebellion the Nothe was fortified, with the object of "keeping in the Portlanders," as an old writer expresses it. From this point the visitor should ramble past the *Look-out* along the cliffs to

Sandsfoot Castle (1 m. from Weymouth by road), a picturesque ruin on the verge of the yellow rocks. Leland calls it "a right goodly and warlyke castle, having one open barbican." It is, however, more attractive at a distance than on a nearer approach, and its architectural interest is but small. It was erected as a coast defence by Henry VIII. about the year 1539, at which time the country apprehended an invasion prompted by the Pope. The walls contain fragments of Norm. and E.E. architecture from Bindon Abbey, with the materials of which the castle was built. Its last governor, Humphrey Weld, was appointed in 1685.

Near Sandsfoot Castle commence the **Smallmouth Sands**, which extend to the long timber bridge over the *Fleet*, a distance of 1 m.

EXCURSIONS.

(a) To **Wyke Regis** (this excursion may be combined with that to Sandsfoot). From Sandsfoot it is a pleasant walk to **Wyke Regis**, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. from Weymouth, of which it possesses the mother church. The road to it passes on the l. *Belfield House* (S. J. Pretor, Esq., J.P.), the seat of the late Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., who represented Weymouth for many years. Wyke Regis is seated on an eminence with a fine view of Portland and of **Deadman's Bay**, as sailors term the fatal West Bay. At Wyke there is a Romano-British cemetery, and Roman remains have been often discovered. The lofty square tower of the *Ch.* is a well-known sea-mark. The church is a good plain Perp. building. In the churchyard among numberless graves of shipwrecked sailors is one which contains 140 of the passengers and crew of the *Alexander*, East Indiaman, lost on the Chesil Bank, March 26th, 1815; only four Lascars escaped, as is recorded on a tablet on the W. wall. Here is the monument to 17 officers and 215 soldiers bound for the West Indies, who perished in the fearful storm of November 18th, 1795, also the graves of 80 persons drowned in the wreck of the *Abergavenny*, off Portland, in the winter of 1805. The captain was brother of Wordsworth, the poet. The fishermen assert that the timbers of the vessel may still be discerned through the water, and speak of the spot where she sank by the name of the ship, or, as they abbreviate it, "the Abbey." It is a favourite spot to fish for whiting.

(b) To **Radipole**, 2 m., the mother church of Melcombe Regis, a pretty walk along the shore of the *Backwater*. The pedestrian can go by one side and return by the other, crossing the swing-bridge into Weymouth. This is a village embowered in trees, where the *Wey* joins the inlet. It appears to have been the Roman port for Durnovaria. Radipole boasts of a sulphurous mineral spring and bathing establishment, about 1 m. from Weymouth. There is another mineral spring with pump-room and baths at *Nottingham*, 3 m. N., just before entering the village of Broadwey. The *Ch.* has an open turret for three bells. There is a charming manor-house beside it.

On the hill overlooking the Backwater is a Romano-British cemetery of several acres in extent. The field behind the church produces many Roman and Romano-British remains, and in the bed of the Wey Roman pottery is often found.

In Radipole Backwater septaria are numerous. They are sometimes called turtle-stones from the markings which they present, which cause them to be cut up and polished for table-tops. They are concretions formed round a matrix, and consisting of clay and calcareous matter; the latter traversing the mass during their formation in veins or septa, hence their name.

(c) To **Preston**, **Osmington**, **Poxwell**, and **Winfrith**. Leaving St. John's Church, the road starts along the shore, and passing the race-ground, known as **Lodmoor**

Marsh, climbs **Jordan Hill**, identified with the Roman station **Clavinium**, where are extensive traces of Roman buildings with a plain but well-preserved tessellated pavement and a large cemetery, from which many hundreds of skeletons have been disinterred, with some beautiful specimens of Samian and other ware, and reaches $2\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Preston**, where Roman pottery is of frequent occurrence in the churchyard. The *Ch.* is interesting, chiefly Perp., with a Norm. door and font on a 15th-century base. There is a holy-water stoup outside the S. door, and a hagioscope in the S. aisle. Note the figure of a man with bears which forms the finial to the dripstone of one of the windows of the N. aisle. At Preston is a bridge of great antiquity, considered by Mr. C. Warne to be of Roman date. Other authorities have, however, referred it to an early Norman date. The road to the l., just beyond this bridge, leads to **Sutton Poyntz**, a pretty village, the "Overcombe" of "The Trumpet-major," where are now the Weymouth waterworks. This is the place from which to visit the colossal figure of King George III. on horseback mentioned below. On a spur of the hill above is the circular entrenchment of **Chalbury**, enclosing two large barrows and numerous hut circles, from 18 to 20 ft. in diameter. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. at **Rimbury** was the necropolis, where numerous kistvaens and cinerary urns have been discovered. The camp follows the configuration of the hill, its defences being created by scarping the steep chalk slope and forming

a ditch and bank. Its interior diameter is from 200 to 250 yards. "*Preston Valley* is a little gem, a verdant dell opening to the sea, through which a streamlet runs, with the sides and bottom covered with woods."—*Gosse*.

Beyond Preston the downs rise abruptly on the rt., and on one of their steepest slopes appears the colossal **figure of George III.** on horseback, formed by removing the turf from the chalk. It was the work of a private soldier, and must be regarded as a proof of considerable skill; for, being cut on an inclined surface, it had to be distorted to produce a true image. It is visible from the sea at a great distance. Along the crest of the ridge are a great number of barrows arranged in groups.

Osmington (4 m.) was a manor given by King Æthelstan to the abbey at Milton, together with five hides of land and the wreck-age of the sea. The *Ch.* is Perp., with a Trans. chancel arch, and contains an ancient monument bearing the arms of Warham. It was partly rebuilt in 1845. Behind the church are the remains of a manor-house with a portion of a mediæval wall.

1 m. to the l. is *Osmington Mill*, a coastguard station, a pretty spot, where a cascade tumbles to the shore, and further E., along the coast, near the hamlet of South Holworth, the *Burning Cliff*, which, between the years 1824 and 1827, emitted clouds of heated vapour, and exhibited on a small scale the phenomena of a volcano. The effect was produced by the de-

composition of the iron pyrites and bituminous shale of the Kimmeridge beds by a long-continued rain.

It is a pleasant row or sail to Osmington Mills across the bay.

$5\frac{1}{4}$ m., at the summit of the hill, turn in through a gate on the rt., and passing a lime-kiln, there will be found the remains of a rude **stone circle**, 13 ft. 8 in. in diameter, may be traced on the top of a green mound, surrounded by a shallow ditch. The stones are all small, the largest not more than 2 ft. 4 in. high. Four large stones to the W. may perhaps be the remains of an outer circle.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Pokeswell** or Poxwell (=Puck's Well). The *Ch.* was erected in 1868 on the site of an earlier building. There is here an old manor-house of the Herings, with the date 1634 over the gate of the porter's lodge.

7 m. on l. **Ower Moigne**, formerly held by the Moignes by serjeanty of the kitchen, where are the modernized remains of the courthouse, which contains some fine specimens of E.E. work (c. 1200). The most interesting portion is the hall on the first floor, with three fine two-light windows. The *Ch.* has some ancient portions; the arcade is Trans.-Norm.

9 m. turn to l. for $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to **Winfrith Newburgh**. The church has some Norm. details, a Perp. tower, and E.E. chancel, and was partly rebuilt in 1852. Among its rectors have been Lindwood, the famous canonist (ob. 1446), and James Atkins, Bishop of Moray and Galloway (ob. 1687).

It is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from here to Lulworth Cove, where the pedestrian may be able to catch a steamer to Weymouth, or he can keep on 1 m. further to

10 m. **East Chaldon**, or Chaldon Herring. The church has a Norm. chancel arch, and a font said to be Saxon. On the ridge of the hill to the N. are five barrows, called **The Five Marys**. The pedestrian can now strike the main road which he left to reach Winfrith, and then return to Weymouth, or he can keep on through West Chaldon until he strikes a trackway running E. and W. along cliffs, which he should follow to the main road, diverging, if he chooses, to Osmington Mill. By this route it will be 10 m. further back to Weymouth.

(d) **Isle of Portland**. A walk round the Isle of Portland (Rte. 18) can be accomplished in one day. The chief points of interest are—view of the Chesil Bank from Fortune's Well, breakwater, Verne Fort, quarries, convict prison, Bow and Arrow Castle, Pennsylvania Castle, Cave Hole, and Portland Bill. A steamer plies several times a day between Weymouth and the island, and a railway connects the two. Open brakes run frequently during the summer round the island, giving time to visit the various objects.

[(e) To **Lulworth Cove** (Rte. 17) by excursion steamer during the summer months. The distance by road is 16 m., 9 m. by water.]

(f) To **Abbotsbury** by road. (Abbotsbury can also be reached by train, a line branching off from that to Dorchester at Upwey Junction.)

Abbotsbury, 9 m. W., is a village famous for the ruins of its abbey, and for its swannery and decoys. The road thither is over a bare but well-cultivated country between the downs and the sea.

3 m. **West Chickerell**. On 1. a lane leads in $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to **East Fleet**, on the **Fleet Water**. This retired village suffered greatly in the memorable storm of November 23rd, 1824, when the church and nearly all the village were devastated by a tide of extraordinary height. In the chancel of the old *Ch.*, now used as a mortuary chapel, are some late brasses of the De Mohuns. Near the old church is a Roman-British cemetery. A new church has been erected in a picturesque situation further inland, at the cost of the late rector, Rev. G. Gould. E. of it 1 m. is *Fleet House* (C. E. A. George, Esq.), formerly the seat of the Rev. George Goodden.

7 m. **Portisham**, a village situated under bold furzy hills, from which a lively little rivulet runs to the sea. The *Ch.* has a tall and stately pinnacled tower, with conspicuous belfry-turret. It has some Norm. details and some E.E. windows and other details, panelled nave arcades, and a Jacobean pulpit. The ceiling is a panelled cove. There is also what appears to be a dole-table on the N. side of the church,

near the E. end. Cnut gave seven hides of land in Portisham to his servant Orc, the founder of Abbotsbury. Here were born *Sir Andrew Ricard*, a notable East India merchant (d. 1672), and *Admiral Sir Thomas M. Hardy*, one of the most illustrious of Nelson's captains, to whose memory a column 70 ft. high has been erected on the adjacent height of **Black Down**, 817 ft. above the sea. The neighbouring downs exhibit many traces of rude stone circles and avenues, and $\frac{1}{2}$ m. E. of the hamlet of *Gorwell* are the remains of a kistvaen, popularly known as the **Grey Mare and her Colts**. Five large stones lie on the slope of the barrow which once enclosed them, removed in the vain hope of discovering hid treasure. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.W. on *Tenant Hill* is a stone circle about 30 ft. in diameter, of eighteen stones, all prostrate, the largest being 8 ft. long. Outside the circle are several outlying stones. On the summit of **Ridge Hill** (rt. of the ascent to Winterbourn) are remains of a cromlech or kistvaen, the only considerable one in the county, called the

Hellstone, which, according to the legend, was thrown by the Evil One to this spot from the Isle of Portland. It consists of a ponderous oval slab about 8 ft. across and $27\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in circumference, of a very hard conglomerate, resting on nine upright supporters. Most of the supporters had been thrown down, and the capstone shelved to the S., but in 1869 the owner of the estate, Mr. Mansfield, had the whole carefully raised and readjusted

by screw-jacks. The locality commands a good view of Hardy's pillar on Black Down, to the l. of which is *Bridehead* (Rte. 14), the seat of Colonel R. Williams, M.P., an ancient earthwork known as the **Old Warren**, and a stony valley called *Bride Bottom*, which may be compared with the Grey Wethers near Avebury.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. ★ **ABBOTSBURY**. This village is very pleasantly situated in a vale about a mile from the sea, below picturesque hill-sides golden with furze, one of which is crowned by the ancient chapel or chantry of St. Catherine. It derives its name from its once celebrated Benedictine abbey, founded, it is said, in the reign of King Cnut (c. 1026) by Orc, one of his "house-carls," and his wife Thola, who bestowed on the abbey the manor of Tolpuddle; but there is a tradition of a church having been founded here in the early times of the British Church by one Bertulfus, and the name of *Abodesbyri* is said to have been given it by St. Peter, who, according to a legendary tale, appeared personally to consecrate the building. At the dissolution the abbey was granted to Sir Giles Strangways. The country at Abbotsbury is very rich in iron, and may form some day an important source of that metal.

The **abbey ruins** are considerable, though scattered over a large area. Some fragments of the great gatehouse, which spanned the road to the S. of the church, still remain, together with an archway to the l. leading into the inner court, an ivy-clad

gable-end, and a picturesque farmhouse and some cottages, preserving windows and buttresses and other relics of the abbey domestic buildings. The most remarkable portion remaining is the noble ***barn** of the 15th century, which for the excellence of its masonry, the beauty of its proportions, and the admirable execution of the decoration of its transeptal entrance and gable ornaments, would put to shame many a modern church. An octagonal staircase-turret adjacent to the great doorway is a very unusual feature. About one-third of its length is roofless. W. of the abbey, under Chapel Hill, are remains of the abbey terraced gardens and fishponds.

The **church** is Perp., with a good plain tower. There is a weather-worn figure of the Trinity in a niche over the W. door. The interior is plain but good. The light arcades run continuously from end to end, without the interruption of a chancel arch. The nave has a plain clerestory; the chancel is distinguished by a Jacobean plaster ceiling, with panels containing the arms of the Strangways and their alliances. The E. window is blocked up by a handsome but incongruous Corinthian altar-piece, erected 1751. The rood door and steps remain, together with a little old stained glass and some good 17th-century woodwork. The Jacobean pulpit is well carved, and a bullet-hole recalls a fray which occurred in the church at the time of the Great Rebellion, November 8th, 1644, when Sir Anthony Ashley

Cooper assailed a Royalist party under Colonel Strangways, who had taken refuge here. In the S. porch is the monumental slab of one of the abbots, with his effigy bearing the pastoral staff.

The **Chapel of St. Catherine** stands conspicuously on the crown of a steep terraced hill overlooking the sea, S.W. of the village. It is a little building of much architectural interest, of Perp. date, 15 ft. in breadth by 45 in length, and of excellent workmanship. Though occupying so exposed a position, the masonry does not show a single crack, and bears few traces of decay. It is an admirable example of plain Perp. architecture, with well-proportioned windows of three lights in the E. gable and of two lights in that to the W. and in the side walls. No timber enters into its construction, which is entirely of stone, ingeniously dovetailed together in the panelled and carved ceiling and roof. The walls are 4 ft. thick, and are supported by massive buttresses, which rise above the parapet in battlemented pinnacles. The stone roof is masked by lofty parapet walls pierced with arched openings. It has two arched entrances with external porches, and at the N.W. angle a look-out and beacon tower. The view is wide and beautiful, commanding a wide stretch of sea from the cliffs of Portland and its long Bill, to the E., to the hills overlooking Burton Bradstock and Bridport to the W. The Swannery lies at one's feet, protected by the long line of the Chesil Bank from the violence of the waves, whose roar, even

on a calm day, is distinctly audible at this height.

A very pretty lane, over-shadowed with elms, with the grey wall of the outer abbey precincts to the rt., leads past the Abbot's Mill to the **Decoy** and **Swannery**, at the end of the Fleet, which form a scene of great interest, almost unique in England, not to be missed by the visitor. It is a place of oozy creeks and reedy pools and still lakelets, all communicating with the Fleet, across which rise the tawny pebble beach and a green warren alive with thousands of nimble rabbits. It affords a home for an immense number of swans, as many as 1000, together with other kinds of wild fowl, being kept there. There are two decoy pipes constructed for the capture of wild fowl, which are enticed into their mazes by tame ducks trained for the purpose. At the entrance a tall pole records the fearful storm of November 23rd, 1824, when the water reached the height of 22 ft. 8 in., submerging the whole of the low land near the sea.

The **Chesil Bank** presents at Abbotsbury the same remarkable appearance as at Portland, but the pebbles, which at Chesilton were nearly 3 in. in diameter, have here decreased to the size of coarse gravel. The music of the sea has also changed, for there is more hissing in the sound. The bank is steeply sloped on both sides, and of immense bulk. To the rt. of the valley stands the **castle**, a summer residence of the Earl of Ilchester, who has a considerable

property here, including the Swannery. The gardens are very beautiful, and would repay inspection.

There is also an *intermittent spring* near the limekiln on the hill-side opposite the village, and, in the neighbourhood, *Hardy's monument* and *Abbotsbury Camp*, 1½ m. W., a square earthwork enclosing 20 acres. It is a fine walk of 6 m. from here to West Bay, whence the pedestrian may return by train or, if he has chosen the right day, by steamer to Weymouth.

ROUTE 14.

SALISBURY TO LYME REGIS
BY BLANDFORD, PUDDLETOWN,
DORCHESTER, BRIDPORT (BEAMINSTER), AND
CHARMOUTH.

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Salisbury.
3 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Coombe Bissett.
9 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Bokerley Dyke.
9 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Woodyates.
14 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Cashmore.
17 m.	Tarrant Hinton.
19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Pimperne.
22 m.	Blandford.
27 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Winterborne Whitchurch.
29 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Milborne St. Andrew's.
	Milborne.
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Milton Abbas.
	Milborne.
33 m.	Puddletown.
38 m.	Dorchester.
42 m.	Winterborne Steepleton.
43 m.	Winterborne Abbas.
53 m.	Bridport.
	Bridport.
2 m.	West Bay.
	Bridport.
6 m.	Beaminster.
	Bridport.
55 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Chideock.
57 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Morcomb Lake.
60 $\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Charmouth.
62 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Lyme Regis.

Leaving Salisbury, the road descends *Harnham Hill* and descends into the Vale of Chalk to Coombe Bissett, 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. (Rte. 10).

Just before the seventh milestone the road traverses **Grim's Ditch**. 8 m. S.E. 1 m. is **Martin**, with a small E.E. church. 9 m. N. are the remains of the woods of **Vernditch Chase**.

9 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Bokerley Dyke** may be seen running in a serpentine line for 4 m. from S.E. to N.W., forming on the S.E. the boundary between Wilts and Dorset. It has been carefully examined by General Pitt-Rivers (see p. 168), who says of it that it has a ditch on the N.E. side of the rampart, proving that it was from this point the enemy was expected. It everywhere occupies strong ground viewed from the standpoint of an enemy advancing to attack it from the N.E. It ran across the Gwent, or open down-land, between two great forests which existed at that time, and the remains of which still, or until quite lately did, exist on both flanks. On the S.E. the dyke terminates upon strong ground in Martin Wood, which may be considered to be the survival of the Forest of Holt, and to have been formerly continuous with the New Forest. On the l. it terminated in a part of the country which, within the memory of persons still living, was a part of Cranborne Chase Wood. It was not thrown up earlier than the reign of Honorius, A.D. 395-423.

9 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Woodyates Inn* (Wood gates, as being the entrance to Cranborne Chase). Near this spot the Duke of Monmouth, in his flight from Sedgemoor, was obliged to abandon his horse. He proceeded on foot towards the coast, but was overtaken and captured by his pursuers on the Woodlands estate near Horton (Rte. 13).

Here the highway falls in with the Via Iceniana, or Icknield Street, from Old Sarum, running in a

straight line towards Badbury Rings. Excavations made at **East Woodyates** by General Pitt-Rivers in 1888 led to the discovery of what is believed to be the site of the Roman station of **Vindogladia**, the name of which seems to have been derived from two Celtic words, *vint*, white, and *gladh*, a ditch or rampart, referring to the adjacent Bokerley Dyke. Numerous tumuli are scattered over the downs. The wooded hills of *Cranborne Chase* are well seen on the rt. 1 m. on the l. the long straight line of the *Ackling Dyke*, or Roman road, may be traced across Thorny Down, running S. between Gussage St. Michael and Gussage St. George. The whole of the downs on both sides are strewn with tumuli, earthworks, British villages, and other relics of the early inhabitants of the country.

14 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Cashmore Inn*, famous in coaching days. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. is **Gussage St. Andrew**, and 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. **Gussage St. Michael** and **All Saints** (divided by the Roman road), little villages along the course of a streamlet, with small ancient churches. That of **St. Michael** has some Trans.-Norm. portions, including the nave, arcade, tower, and font. In the churchyard is a magnificent yew-tree. That of **All Saints** is a good specimen of Early Dec. The windows of the nave have singular foliated rear arches. The font of Purbeck marble is Trans.-Norm. The chancel has been rebuilt. **Gussage St. Andrew** has an E.E. chapel consisting only of a nave.

Horton (Rte. 13) is 3 m. further S.

3 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. is **More Crichel** (see p. 479, Rte. 13).

3 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. in Cranborne Chase is **Rushmore Lodge**, the seat of General Pitt-Rivers, the house being in Wiltshire, but upwards of 30,000 acres of his estate are in Dorset.

The * **Larmer Grounds** at Rushmore are the property of General Pitt-Rivers, who has most generously laid them out as pleasure-grounds for the recreation of the population in the neighbourhood. In addition to the general lawn, there are six "quarters" hedged off for the use of picnic parties. There is a band composed of workmen on the estate, and every arrangement is made for the comfort of visitors, with the most successful results upon the happiness of the neighbourhood. The "Larmer Tree" is traditionally the spot where King John, when stopping at his hunting-box (*vide infra*), used to meet with his huntsmen (Larmer = Laefer-mere, *i.e.*, the bulrush boundary—Rushmore (or mere), the rush boundary). A bronze statue, by Boehm, in the grounds, "The Hunter of Early Days," represents an ancient British hunter mounted on his small horse and watching his prey with his spear in his hand. The keeper of the grounds wears the dress of the ancient keepers of the Chase.

Tollard Royal, 1 m. W., contains * "**King John's House**," the successor of a hunting-box owned by that monarch, who held a knight's fee at Tollard in right of

Isabella his wife. It is the property of General Pitt-Rivers, who has carefully restored it, and described it in a most interesting work. It is partly 13th-century and partly Elizabethan. It is probable, the General thinks, that the house resembled, on a small scale, the castle of Acton Burnell, in Shropshire. It contains various relics found during the restoration of the house, also specimens of pottery, ancient and modern, and of Tudor embroidery and needlework. There is also a collection of pictures illustrative of the history of painting, commencing with Egyptian paintings of mummy-heads, B.C. 1200-528, and terminating with the 19th century. Amongst these the following may be mentioned: *Margaritone* of Arezzo (1216-93), "Virgin and Child"; *Lucas Cranach*, "The Woman Taken in Adultery"; *Quintin Matsys*, "A Banker and his Wife"; *Tintoretto*, "The Miracle of the Slave"; *Van der Heyden*, "a Canal Scene in Winter"; *Morland*, "A Fish Saleswoman." The house is open to the public, and refreshments can be obtained from the caretaker. The *Ch.* contains a cross-legged effigy, believed to be that of Sir W. Payne (early 14th-century). It is one of the only five examples in England of effigies representing banded mail, a kind of armour of which no actual specimen has been handed down to us. (For a full description see the work on King John's House above mentioned.) On the wall is a wooden cross in memory of Mrs. Bronthurst, daughter of the late Earl Rivers, killed by lightning on the Bernese Alps, 1865, originally raised at the scene

of the accident by the inhabitants of the adjacent Alpine village and subsequently brought to England. **Woodcuts**, a British village, and **South Camp**, both on the Rushmore estate, have been most carefully explored and described by their eminent owner.

★ **Farnham**, 1½ m. S., contains

* **General Pitt-Rivers' Museum**, which consists of eight rooms and galleries, and is open every day, *Sundays included*. It contains most valuable collections illustrative of prehistoric antiquities; series illustrating the history of pottery and of glass-making from the earliest times; also of carvings, drawings, and paintings on the flat. All objects are ticketed and described, so that no catalogue is required. Here will be found also copies of the large quarto volumes in which are contained accounts of the excavations carried on by the General with the most invaluable results to the science of early archæology. Visitors to this county should not fail to see Tollard Royal, Rushmore, and Farnham, if only as examples of what a public-spirited owner of property can achieve for the benefit of his fellow-men. The traveller through these counties will scarcely fail to notice the large number of gates coloured yellow and blue. These are all on the General's property, and denote the colours of his livery, azure and or.

17 m. **Tarrant Hinton**. The *Ch.* stands picturesquely on the hill-slope N.W. of the village. The tower is E.E., with Perp. windows, the arcades E.E. There is a Norm. font, and on the N.

side of the chancel a chapel opening into it by a Late Perp. arch highly adorned with carving and colour, the work of Thomas Trotteswell, the rector, 1515. This chapel communicates with a priest's chamber, originally of two stories, as shown by the holes for the joists in the turret wall. On the N. side of chancel there is an arch, bearing in a medallion to the rt. the three women at the sepulchre and the inscription "Venite et videte locum ubi positus erat Dominus." This is evidently an Easter sepulchre, a very late example of such an arrangement. Over the porch door of the rectory is an inscription, commemorating the builder of this sepulchre and of the original rectory, which was at the foot of the hill, Thomas Trotteswell, *alias* Wever, rector 1532. The present rectory was designed by the elder Pugin. The remains of a Roman villa were discovered here in a field near the church, and part of the pavement is in the school.

1 m. rt. is **Tarrant Gunville**, with a *Ch.* entirely rebuilt 1845, with the exception of the pinnaled tower.

Eastbury Park, in this parish (Young's "Pierian Eastbury"), formerly the site of a mansion by Vanbrugh (see Campbell's "Vitruv. Brit.," vol. iii.), of great size and splendour, erected 1718, at a cost of £140,000, by George Bubb Dodington. (Bubb Dodington, the son of an apothecary at Weymouth, and nephew of George Dodington, one of the Lords of the Admiralty, by address in electioneering gained political importance, and was created Lord

Melcombe. He was a retainer of Frederick, Prince of Wales.) The house was taken down and sold piecemeal, all but one wing, in 1795, by Earl Temple, who had previously offered an annuity of £200 to any gentleman who would occupy it and keep it in repair. It is celebrated in verse by Thomson in "Autumn," *vv.* 651-669 (who dedicated his "Summer" to Dodington), Young, and Christopher Pitt, who writes:—

"Where with your Dodington retired you sit,

Charmed with his flowing Burgundy and wit,

Where a new Eden in the wild is found,
And all the seasons in a spot of ground.'

Pitt to Young.

They, with Fielding, Bentley, and other literary men of the day, were frequent guests here. Voltaire was also a visitor at Eastbury:—

"On Dorset downs, where Milton's page
With sin and death provoked thy rage."

Young.

The estate is now the property of H. F. W. Farquharson, Esq. From 1806 to 1858 it was the seat of the famous "Eastbury Kennel," of which Mr. Farquharson was master, displaying "an equanimity of temper which was never ruffled, and an urbanity of manners and generosity of disposition seldom equalled, united with great punctuality and forbearance."

[From Tarrant Hinton the pedestrian may take a very pleasant walk down the valley of the little river Tarrant, an affluent of the Stour, with a pretty village called from the stream, and an ancient church, almost every mile, to Spetisbury Stat., and regain the route at Blandford by rly. He will come in succession to

Tarrant Monkton, Rushton, Keynston, and Crawford. **Tarrant Monkton** takes its second name from having belonged to Tewkesbury Abbey. The church is small and uninteresting. At Monkton Farm bronze torques and armillæ were dug up some years since. **Tarrant Rushton Church** is an interesting small cruciform building. The chancel is Norm. the N. transept E.E., the rest Dec. The tympanum of the porch has a curious bas-relief; there is a low side window, and three hagioscopes of the Dec. period. Two earthenware vessels were found built into the chancel arch when it was restored. **Tarrant Keynston** takes its name from the ancient family *De Caneto*, of which it was the seat. One of its members took Stephen prisoner at the battle of Lincoln. The *Ch.* was rebuilt by T. H. Wyatt in 1873. The very curious "Ancren Rewle," containing rules for female anchorites, was drawn up for three young ladies of rank, who immured themselves here c. 1200. **Tarrant Crawford**, with an E.E. *Ch.* of flint and stone, was the site of a Cistercian nunnery, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin and All Saints, founded by Ralph de Kahaynes or de Caneto, temp. Richard I., and re-endowed by Bp. Poore, of Salisbury, 1217, who was born and, according to some authorities, died and was buried here. The site of the monastic church is marked by rough ground, and a barn contains some remains of the old buildings. **Crawford Castle** is a circular earthwork. **Buzbury**, 1 m. N. on the downs, is a circular entrenchment, containing seven or eight acres, with a

double ditch, commanding fine views N.E. and S.E., probably the site of a fortified British village. A network of trackways spreads over the adjacent downs, which are connected by branches with this stronghold. *Crawford Bridge* was repaired by forty days' indulgences, A.D. 1506.]

Returning to the main route, the road passes between extensive British settlements N. and S., and reaches

19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Pimperne**, where was a curious maze cut in the turf on the down, "much used by the young people on holidays and by the schoole-boies," destroyed in 1730; now the site of the Blandford cemetery. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1874, has a very rich Norm. S. door and cup-shaped font. The chancel arch has bold chevron mouldings and good capitals. There are remains of the sanctus bell-cot. The porch of the parsonage, built, like that of Tarrant Hinton, by Thomas Trotteswell, 1530, deserves notice. The remains of the village cross still stand on the green. *Frampton*, Bishop of Gloucester, one of the suspended bishops, was born at Hyde Farm, 1622. He steadfastly opposed James II.'s efforts to favour Catholicism, but remained firm in his allegiance to him. He appealed to William III. in behalf of his lawful and injured sovereign, and received for answer, "I will take care of the Church." After boldly preaching before him in James's favour at Hampton Court, William remarked, "I perceive the Bishop of Gloucester don't expect a translation." Soon after this he was

deprived. He took no part in the nonjuring schism.

Christopher Pitt (the poet), the translator of the "*Æneid*" and Vida's "*Art of Poetry*," was rector here (d. 1748).

The road descends into the valley of the Stour, and reaches

22 m. **Blandford** (see Rte. 20).

The road rises from the valley over Charlton Down. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is *Down House* (Sir W. Smith-Marriott, Bart.)

$25\frac{1}{2}$ m. the road crosses the earthwork of **Combe's Ditch**. Two barrows face each other on opposite sides of the highway, like posts for sentinels. The dyke may be traced S.E. along the crest of the down to Great Colwood, where it descends into the Winterborne valley, and is lost there.

$27\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Winterborne Whitchurch**, where the road crosses a feeder of the Stour, which gives a name to this and many neighbouring parishes. The chancel of the *Ch.* is E.E., the tower is central and of Perp. date on Trans.-Norm. piers. There is only a S. transept. The nave was rebuilt in 1841. The pulpit is ancient, and was brought from the parish church at Milton, the font a very curious architectural design, dated 1450. John Wesley, the grandfather of the founder of Methodism, was vicar here, 1658. He married a niece of Thomas Fuller, author of "*The Worthies*." He appears not to have been regularly ordained, and was much harassed after the Restoration, which led to his commencing a career of itinerant

preaching in striking similarity to that of his grandson, whose father, Samuel, the rector of Epworth, was born here. George Turberville, the poet, was born here, c. 1540. On the l. is *Whatcombe House*, built 1750 (J. C. Mansel Pleydell, Esq., D.L., J.P.). It contains a collection of paintings by Morland, Gainsborough, Zuccherò, Vandyck, Kneller, Lely, Jansen, and Andrea del Sarto.

[Continuing up the stream we come to **Winterborne Clenstone**, 2 m., once the seat of the De la Lyndes, and afterwards of the Mortons. A picturesque fragment of this manor-house remains. The hall, with a fine timber roof, has been divided into several rooms. The barn has a good roof of six bays. The *Ch.* is modern, with a spire, erected at the sole expense of the late Mrs. Michel, of Whatcombe House, by whom the church of **Winterborne Houghton** was also rebuilt in 1861. $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. further up the stream is **Winterborne Stickland**, with a *Ch.* modernized in 1716, and restored in 1891, when parts of the old oak waggon-roof were found and restored and made good. At the same time a part of an ancient oak screen was discovered, and a sculpture of the Crucifixion, built into the wall of the porch. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. further we come to **Turnworth**, where the *Ch.* has been rebuilt in a good style, preserving the old square tower, and some ancient features. *Turnworth House*, under the chalk downs, the seat of Lieutenant-Colonel Parry-Okeden, is a modern Gothic building. On

the hill above is a small (? British) camp, and one of the most perfect examples of a British village in the county.]

29 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Milborne St. Andrew's** is erroneously said to have been the birthplace of Cardinal Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury, the deviser of "Morton's Fork," b. 1410, who was really born at Milborne Stileham, in the parish of Bere Regis. There are some remains of the manor-house. The little *Ch.* has Norm. and E.E. portions, and possesses a Norm. S. doorway. It contains a good canopied Purbeck marble tomb to John Morton, nephew of the Cardinal. The Norm. font has been turned into the churchyard to make way for a modern builder's font of the approved type. Sir John Morton, of this family, is mentioned by Pepys as "a Parliament man who had heretofore spoken very highly against Brouncker in the House," during the inquiry into the affairs of the navy. He was then M.P. for Poole, subsequently for Melcombe Regis.

2 m. N.W. of Milborne is **Dewlish**, where is the seat of the Michels, built 1702, near which a Roman pavement was discovered in 1740. The house contains a valuable collection of old masters and Chinese objects, the latter collected by the late Field-Marshal Sir J. Michell, G.C.B. The *Ch.* has good Norm. N. and S. doors. The N. aisle has Perp. arches with panelled soffits. It contains a memorial window to General John Michell (d. 1844), and a monument to the late field-marshal.

1 m. l. is **Weatherbury Castle**, or, as it is called here, *Castle Rings*, along rectangular (? British) camp, with two ramparts and ditches, containing seven acres. An obelisk was erected by E. M. Pleydell in 1790 within the enclosure, which is now covered with fir-trees.

[2 m. S.E. of Milborne is *Bere Regis* (Rte. 19).]

[From Milborne a pretty lane runs up a vale to *Milton Abbey*, 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., the seat of H. C. T. Hambro, known for its *Abbey Church*. From the park gate, with its huge dogs supporting with raised paws armorial shields, the lane turns rt. to

Milton Abbas, 7 m. S.W. of Blandford, 11 m. N.E. of Dorchester. It was built 1786 by Joseph Damer, first Earl of Dorchester, to receive the inhabitants of the old village under the shadow of the abbey, which was pulled down on the erection of the present mansion. It consists of two rows of cottages, each cottage with high thatched roof, and in all respects similar to its neighbour, from which it is separated by an open space planted with a chestnut-tree. The result is very striking. In the centre of one row is the almshouse, and in that of the other the church, built in debased Gothic, 1786, with pinnacled tower, and a fine old font removed from the abbey.

***MILTON ABBEY** is seated in a hollow at the confluence of three deep valleys below swelling downs and woods, in a park which extends 3 m. from E. to W. It occupies the site of an

abbey founded by Aethelstan c. 933 for secular priests, who were made to give place to Benedictine monks in 964. At the dissolution, it was given by Henry VIII. (for £1000) to Sir John Tregonwell, his proctor in the divorce from Queen Katharine. From the Tregonwells it passed by marriage to Sir Jacob Bancks, secretary to the Swedish Embassy (b. 1663), and then by purchase, in 1752, to Joseph Damer, afterwards Earl of Dorchester. With the exception of the hall, the whole of the monastic buildings were pulled down in 1771, when the present house was built by the Earl of Dorchester, from the designs of Sir William Chambers. It is a large quadrangular mansion with a central court, and is constructed of white limestone, alternating with layers of flint. It is a curious example of its architect's notions of the Gothic style. The principal fronts face the N. and the W., and on the S. is the noble abbey church.

The only interesting part of the house is the **monks' hall**, or **refectory**. The walls are hung with ancient weapons, and emblazoned with the arms of Aethelstan and other patrons of the abbey. It is a stately apartment, with a roof of Irish oak, a much-admired screen of the same material (but painted white and gilded), and a sideboard, on which a stag-hunt is finely carved. Among its curiosities are also the antlers of an elk found in Tipperary, and the great bugle-horn used in the old deer-hunts. The date, 1498, and the rebus of Abbot Milton (a mill and a tun) will be observed on the screen and cornice.

The * **ABBEY CHURCH** is a truly noble specimen of ecclesiastical architecture, deserving to take high rank among the ministers of the land, but till recently, from its remote situation, almost unknown to architectural inquiries. It consists of the three eastern arms of a cross church, with a very richly pinnacled tower rising at the intersection of the transepts. Its outline recalls that of Merton College Chapel at Oxford, and there is every reason to believe that, as in that instance, the nave was, though planned, never erected. The church, which existing fragments show had been erected with much elaborate ornament towards the end of the 12th century, was struck by lightning in 1309, and burnt down. The rebuilding was commenced in 1322, and was carried on gradually. The choir is the earliest part, and is also the plainest. The S. transept was the next part built, of much finer work, followed by the N. transept, in which the Dec. of the other portions passes into Perp., which style is fully developed in the elaborate tower. The Lady Chapel has been destroyed. The best view of the church is that from the S.E., which displays the beautifully designed double flying buttresses supporting the clerestory. The whole of the interior is vaulted in stone. The arrangement of the choir arcade is singular, having rather the effect of a wall pierced with arches than a continuous arcade. The design is heavy, and suffers from the want of a string-course above the arches, which is found in the transepts. The lantern arches

are noble. The rich **altar-screen** (dated 1492), which was walled up for security, but is now uncovered and restored in artificial stone, is an elaborate work, of the same character as those of Winchester and St. Albans, divided into niches with highly decorated canopies. **Two ancient paintings** are preserved in the church. They are supposed to represent Aethelstan, the founder of the abbey, and his queen, the former presenting a model of the church to a monk, who is kneeling, the latter holding in her hand a hawk, which is devouring a small bird. They were painted for the place they occupy about the time of Edward IV. Notice on the rt. of the altar the three-canopied sedilia; in the N. transept the marble effigy of Lady Milton (d. 1775), with her lord in his robes, bag-wig, and sword, hanging over her in an agony of grief, grotesquely portrayed by *Carlini*; in the S. transept the Jesse window by Pugin, and a curious wooden ***tabernacle** in the S. aisle, for the reservation of the Blessed Sacrament, of course not now in its original position—the only example remaining in this country; on the wall the rebus of the name Milton (a mill and a tun, or cask, with date 1218); and in the N. aisle the marble monument of Sir John Tregonwell, 1565, who received the abbey from Henry VIII. and favoured the old religion, but served every sovereign down to Elizabeth. An inappropriate white marble font, by Jerichau, a pupil of Thorwaldsen's, was given by Baron Hambro, by whom the whole building was restored under the

direction of Sir G. G. Scott. The dimensions of the church are—length, 132 ft.; breadth, 61 ft.; transept, 107 ft.; tower, 101 ft. high.

On the hill to the E. of the abbey, reached by smoothly kept grass slopes, stands the Chapel of **St. Catherine**, in the early Norm. style, with encaustic tiles paving the chancel, and a curious declaration of indulgence on the side of the S. door. This chapel has passed through various phases of desecration, having been at one time used as a dove-cot, at another as a labourer's cottage. The E. and W. ends have been cruelly restored.

About 3 m. N.W. rises **Bulbarrow**, the loftiest chalk down on the range, 902 ft. above the sea. It is intersected by dykes of defence, etc., crowned by the camp of **Rawlsbury Rings**, a circular work of seven or eight acres, formed by double ramparts, and commanding very extensive views over the country. The ridge of Bulbarrow is traversed by an ancient trackway, at various points of which are remains of pit villages, and a small enclosure, possibly British, in Ibberton Park. **Nettlecomb Tout**, 4 m. S.W., is another entrenched hill-fort of refuge.

Hilton, 1½ m. N.W., possesses a very attractive ivy-grown *Ch.* The tower is stately, and there are fine Perp. windows. The S. porch has a fan-tracery roof; a delicate little corbel of ivy-leaves over the priests' door and a doleful deserve notice. The lower stage of the tower contains whole-length figures of the apostles

painted on panel, brought from Milton Abbey. There is a Norm. font on a modern base. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of Hilton, in a quiet recess, deep down among the round chalk hills, approached by avenues of stately trees, stands the fine old residence of **Bingham's Melcombe** (R. Bosworth-Smith, Esq.), the seat until recently of the Bingham family without a break in the male succession since about 1250. It was the birthplace of *Sir Richard Bingham*, "a brave soldier," says Fuller, "*fortis et felix* in all his undertakings." He was at the battles of Lepanto and St. Quentin, and has a monument in Westminster Abbey.

On entering the courtyard under the buttressed gatehouse, the terraced front of the hall, with its oriel of remarkable projection, presents a very picturesque composition, in combination with a gable richly decorated with escutcheons and angular shafts. Near the house are an ancient bowling-green and fishponds. The windows of the little *Ch.*, a plain Dec. building, contain some good bits of glass from Milton Abbey.]

33 m. **Puddletown** (Rte. 19).

$34\frac{1}{2}$ m. the road crosses **Yellowham Hill**, with the deep ferny glades of Yellowham Wood (the Yalbury Great Wood of "Under the Greenwood Tree," and passing **Stinsford** (see p. 530), we enter

38 m. **DORCHESTER** (Rte. 13). The traveller leaves this town by the Roman *Via Iceniana*, or *Ickniel Street*, now for $\frac{1}{2}$ m. an avenue. On the rt. is *Poundbury*, on the l., in the distance, *Maiden Castle*.

"Now o'er true Roman road our horses
sound
Grævius would kneel and kiss the sacred
ground."—*Gay*.

From the end of the avenue the road runs in a straight line up the long slope of **Bradford Down**, and from the summit, in 3 m., commands an extensive prospect. Heights and hollows are alike studded with barrows. Many may be counted on the crests of the distant hills ranging from Ridgeway Hill to Black Down. There are others on the low ground of Fordington Field, and several by the roadside, in the adjacent meadows. After a descent of $\frac{3}{4}$ m., we turn l., leaving the Roman road, which pursues a direct course towards Eggarston Hill. In front rises the dark height of **Black Down**, 817 ft. above the sea. It is crowned by an octagonal tower in memory of the gallant *Admiral Sir Thomas Hardy*, who was born in the village of Portisham, to the S. of it. On the southern slope of the down is the cromlech known as **Hellstone** (Rte. 13).

41 m. **Winterborne St. Martin** (or Martin's Town). The *Ch.* (restored 1896) contains a Norm. font, and there is a piscina with credence in the N. aisle.

42 m. **Winterborne Steepleton**. The *Ch.* has a hexagonal spire, the only ancient stone spire in the county besides that at Iwerne Minster. It has Norm. doorways and a Norm. font. Built into the wall on the outside to the W. of the S. door is a curious figure of an angel, very like those in the pre-Conquest church of Bradford-on-Avon, and probably of the same date. It

may have been one of a pair originally over the chancel arch. **Bredy.**

43 m. **Winterborne Abbas**, a rural village sunk among the chalk downs, $9\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Weymouth. The *Ch.* has a fine tower and remains of E.E. work, a Norm. font, and a good piscina (c. 1320). Dr. Gilbert Ironside, Bishop of Bristol (d. 1671), was the son of Dr. Ralph Ironside, rector of this parish, whom he succeeded 1625. Winterborne, in common with other places of the name, is so called from a stream, peculiar to the chalk valleys, of which the fountains periodically well up, or "break," as it is termed, in the winter.

$\frac{1}{4}$ m. beyond this village, l., is a stone circle, known as the **Nine Stones**, about 28 ft. in diameter. The stones are of a cherty conglomerate, and eight in number, and one only appears to be wanting. The largest is 7 ft. in height by 4 ft. in width, the next in size $5\frac{1}{2}$ ft. by 6 ft.; the others are mere fragments little raised above the ground. About $\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. of this circle on the road towards Bridport is the **Broad Stone**, a large monolith, 10 ft. by 5 ft., and 2 ft. thick, now prostrate.

Climbing the downs, we reach the entrance of *Bridehead* (Colonel Williams, M.P.), formerly the residence of the Mellers, which takes its name from a copious spring, which, issuing from the chalk, forms a beautiful lake, the head of the river **Bride**, which, flowing W., falls into the sea at Burton Bradstock. The E.E. *Ch.*, with tower and spire, was built in 1850, and

$1\frac{1}{4}$ m. another entrance to *Bridehead*, which is about 2 m. l. The road here quits the enclosed country for the open downs, on which it continues for some miles. Upwards of twenty barrows stud the adjoining slopes. Dr. Stukeley pronounced this locality "for sight of barrows not to be equalled in the world."

1 m. rt. **Kingston Russel**, an ancient mansion, now a farmhouse, with tall trees and a rookery—an oasis among the furze-covered hills. It was for four centuries the seat of the Russels, ancestors of the Duke of Bedford (see *ante*, Wolfeton, Rte. 13). On the summit to the l. are several barrows, and a bank and ditch running E.N.E. and W.S.W. Below the S. side of this hill lies the village of **Long Bredy**.

46 m. **Long Bredy Gate** (540 ft. above the sea), on cross-roads, where there is a pass through the downs. By the gate are two grassy tumuli, and the remains of a third. The road now ascends to the summit of a lofty ridge, reaching a height of 702 ft., on which it continues for $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. To the l. is a delightful view of fertile valleys, of the hills by the coast, and a fringe of blue sea. The earthworks of *Abbotsbury Castle* and the height of *Punc-knoll Knob*, with its sea-mark, are conspicuous.

47 m. in a field on rt. is a nearly buried ring of stones, **Carlben Circle**, near which are some tumuli, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ m.

further on same side of the road the remains of a dolmen.

48 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. Here the whole of western Dorset and parts of Somerset and Devon open on the traveller, who commences a descent of 2 m. On the rt., beyond an intervening valley, stretches the long rolling down of

Eggardon Hill, crowned by a remarkable camp, resembling in its shape and the strength of its defences Maiden Castle, near Dorchester. On the N. and E. its entrenchments are double, on the W. triple; on the S. they cannot be accurately traced. The inner rampart is more than 50 ft. in height, and the oval area it encloses, of 20 acres, is studded with tumuli. The entrances are two in number, on the N.W. and S.E., and artfully made by overlapping banks. To that on the S.E. ran the Roman road direct from Dorchester. The hill stands in three parishes.

50 m. **Travellers' Rest** (253 ft. above the sea). L. is **Shipton Beacon**, like a ship turned keel upwards, with an elliptical camp. It is irregular in form, with a single low rampart and ditch. Just S. of it is **Hammerdon Hill**, and to the N.W. are seen the singular twin heights of **Lewesdon** and **Pillesdon**, called by sailors *The Cow and the Calf*, the latter the highest hill in Dorsetshire, 907 ft. above the sea.

53 m. ***BRIDPORT** (a municipal and once a parliamentary borough (Pop. 6611), taking its name from the river Bride or Bredy, which falls into the sea at Burton Freshwater, below the

town). [Bridport is connected with the G.W. and S.W. systems by a branch line to Maiden Newton, on the Dorchester and Yeovil line. This line is continued to West Bay.] This is a large airy town, surrounded by hills and seated on a gentle eminence between two small streams, the *Brit*, W., and *Asker*, E., which unite below the town. The streets form a Y, two branches running from the E. and W. towards the centre, where stands the red-brick Town Hall, and a third running S. towards the harbour. The town is chiefly built of red brick, and has no architectural pretensions. The trade of the port lies chiefly in the importation of timber from Canada and Norway. There is considerable coasting trade. Bridport has long been celebrated for its manufacture of twine, rope, shoe-thread, etc., and in the reign of Henry VIII. supplied most of the cordage used in the royal navy. A quantity of hemp was formerly grown in the neighbourhood, and hence the *local phrase for a man being hanged, "He was stabbed with a Bridport dagger." This was taken by Leland in a literal sense. "At Bridport," he says, "be made good daggers." There are *twine walks* at the backs of most of the houses, which are worth inspection. It is a place of considerable antiquity, being mentioned in Domesday as possessing a mint and a religious foundation. Its earliest charter was granted by Henry III., and this was subsequently renewed and enlarged by other sovereigns.

Bridport has never been distinguished by any important

BEAMINSTER, BRIDPORT, & ABBOTSBURY



sand and marl belonging to the oolite. Again, beyond the mouth of the small river Bredy, the oolite is lost to view in its turn, the low **Burton Cliffs** being formed of fuller's earth, abounding in fibrous calcareous spar. At Bridport harbour we see the first commencement of the **Chesil Bank** begins, its materials passing gradually from fine sand to coarse shingle between this point and Portland.

EXCURSIONS FROM BRIDPORT.

(a) To **Burton Bradstock** and **Swyre**. There is a pleasant walk over the hills, returning by the cliffs or along the shore to

Burton Bradstock, 3 m. S.E. of Bridport, which takes its name in its original form, Brideton, from the river Bredy, on which it stands, near its embouchure (a pretty spot). The manor was given by Henry I. to St. Stephen's, Caen, to redeem the regalia which the Conqueror at his death had bequeathed to that abbey. It at one time belonged to Bradenstock Priory, in Wilts (Rte. 1). It was afterwards assigned to St. Stephen's, Westminster, and remained the property of that college till the dissolution. The *Ch.* is cruciform, mainly Perp., with a central tower supported on panelled arches.

Swyre, $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. E., lying just below the conspicuous hill **Puncknoll Knob**, may be visited for the sake of its *intermittent spring*, at Berwick farm, $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N., said to ebb and flow with the tide, and to have a briny savour. It is protected by a small thatched

shed. Puncknoll House was once the residence of Colonel Shrapnel, the inventor of the shell which bears his name.

(b) To **Beaminster** and **Dis-trict**.

At **Melplash**, 4 m., is a church, built 1845, in the Norm. style by James Bandinel, Esq. **Melplash Court**, now tenanted by E. G. Legg, Esq., is a large ancient building, formerly the seat of the Mores, a family of consequence before the time of Henry VI. Over the parlour chimney-piece are the arms of James I., and over that in the hall those of the Paulets, with the date 1604, and their motto, "Aimez loyauté." There is a small domestic chapel at the back.

5 m. **Netherbury**, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. l., one of the largest parishes in the county, abounding in rivulets. It is one of the prebends of Salisbury Cathedral. The *Ch.* is a stately Perp. edifice, with a square western tower, containing an alabaster monumental effigy in complete armour, with a collar of SS. round the neck, to one of the More family. There is a fine Jacobean pulpit. Charles II. halted here on his way to Salisbury, after the failure of his attempted escape from Charmouth. There is an ancient manor-house at **Strode**, 2 m. W. of Netherbury (Mrs. Reeve), of the time of Elizabeth. The wainscotting of the dining-parlour bears the arms of Gollop, with the date 1634.

At **Mapperton**, 2 m., is a manor-house of the time of Henry VIII. (Rev. P. M. Comp-ton), with octagonal turrets and spiral pedestals surmounted with

heraldic figures. The interior exhibits richly panelled ceilings emblazoned with armorial bearings. Temp. Edward I. this manor belonged to the Bryte family, from whom it passed in 1604 to Richard Broderip, and then to the Comptons, its present possessors. The *Ch.* was rebuilt, c. 1700, and restored in 1846. N.W. rises a conical hill called **Chart Knoll**.

5½ m. **Parnham**, formerly the seat of the Strodes, from whom it passed by marriage to the Oglanders in 1764 (V. J. Robinson, Esq., C.I.E., F.S.A.). On the death of Lady Oglander in 1894, it went to Admiral Sir O'Brien Fitzroy, whose executors sold it to its present owner. The house (which is never shown) is a Tudor building at the end of an avenue of large trees. It contains a fine hall, built by John Strode, 1449, emblazoned with coats of arms, chiefly of the Strode family, in the great window. The screen, the table, and some of the armour are of the same date as the house, but have been removed to it by the present owner. William Strode, one of the "Five Members" in Charles I.'s time, was a cadet of this house. In the library is a fine full-length portrait of the first Lord Hay, temp. Charles I., by Miervelt, and there are some other good pictures, particularly one of Cardinal Barberini, by Domenichino, a portrait by Vander Helst, a Holy Family by Correggio, and another by Bernard van Orley. Several of the rooms are tapestried, and much of the furniture is of the same date as the house. The Brit flows behind the house.

6 m. ★**BEAMINSTER** (pronounced Bemminster, Pop. 1915), a neat, well-looking place, owing its modern appearance to its frequent conflagrations. At the time of the Domesday Survey the manor belonged to the Bishop of Salisbury, and it was given by Bp. Osmund, 1091, to augment two of the prebends of his cathedral. On Palm Sunday, 1644, during the Civil War, when Prince Maurice was quartered here, it was fired in five places in consequence of a quarrel among the different forces, and nearly burnt to the ground. Sprigge passed through it the next year with Fairfax's army, and found it "the pitifullest spectacle that man can behold, hardly a house left not consumed." A large part was again burnt in 1684, and again in 1781. It is the "Emminster" of "Tess of the D'Urber-villes," where Angel Clare's father was vicar. The **church** (a chapel of ease to Netherbury) happily escaped these repeated fires, and is a very noble building, with rich memorial windows of stained glass. It is Perp. externally, with a stately square ***tower**, c. 1503 (on which the quarters of some of Monmouth's followers were exposed), ornamented with niches and sculptures of the Blessed Virgin and the Crucifixion, Resurrection, Ascension, etc., on the W. face. The arcade of the nave and a curious squint from the S. aisle into the chancel are E.E. The chancel arch has some good panelling. It contains monuments of the Strodes, including a marble statue to Thomas Strode, serjeant-at-law (d. 1698), and one with marble effigies and statues

pulpit is that used by Fuller. The parish, which is the third largest in the diocese, containing 6666 acres, 7 m. by 6 m., lies chiefly in a rich vale of meadows and orchards watered by innumerable brooks, and bounded by bold hills. The chief of these are the twin heights of

Lewesdon Hill and Pillesdon Pen (this latter remarkable for the peaked form of its southern extremity), two conspicuous eminences of greensand, remarkable for their likeness to one another when viewed from certain points, about 3 m. W. of Beaminster. Sailors, whom they serve as a landmark, call them *The Cow and the Calf*; and the two hills together have given rise to a proverbial saying current in this county, and applied to neighbours who are not acquainted—

“As much akin
As Lew’son Hill to Pilston Pen.”

These hills are the highest in the county, Lewesdon 834 ft. above the sea, Pillesdon 907 ft., and command a charming prospect. Pillesdon, a lofty tableland overlooking the county for miles—

“that rival height south-west,
Which like a rampire bounds the vale
beneath.” *Crowe.*

—is also interesting for an ancient **camp**, of oval form, encompassed by three strong ramparts and ditches.

Wordsworth and his sister settled at **Racedown Lodge**, on the N.W. slope of Pillesdon, in the autumn of 1795, in a house belonging to Mr. Pinney, of Bristol, a friend of Basil Montague’s. The place was very retired, with little or no society,

and a post but once a week. Miss Wordsworth describes it as “the place dearest to my recollections upon the whole surface of the island, the first home I had”; and speaks with rapture of the lovely meadows above the tops of the combes, and the scenery on Pillesdon, Lewesdon, and Blackdon Hill, and the view of the sea from Lambert’s Castle. Here Wordsworth wrote “The Borderers,” and in June, 1797, received his first visit from Coleridge, which led to their removal to Alfoxden.

(d) *Pillesdon*, 5 m. W. of Beaminster, was the birthplace of Sir John Hody, Chief Justice of King’s Bench, 1440, temp. Henry VI., whom a false tradition asserts to have passed sentence of death for a capital crime on his own son, who could not have been seven years old at his father’s death. Of the same family were Lord Chief Baron Hody (d. 1524) and Humphrey Hody, the learned divine (d. 1706). The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1830, contains a good piscina, and a stoup in the porch.

Bettiscombe, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W.N.W., a little church rebuilt in 1862 by the late J. Tatchell-Bullen, of Marshwood Manor, is a conspicuous object on the E. side of the vale. It contains memorials of the Pinneys.

The drive from Bridport to Lyme (8 m.) is very attractive, up and down a series of long and steep hills, succeeding one another like waves, and commanding very varied prospects, with every now and then a peep

of the blue sea to the l. through gaps in the downs. It is pronounced by Madame D'Arblay to be "the most beautiful to which my wandering feet have sent me, diversified with all that can compose luxuriant scenery, and with just as much approach to the sublime as is in the province of unterrific beauty" ("Diary," 1791).

"Through Bridport's stony lanes our way
we take,
And the proud steep descend to Morcomb
lake;
On unadulterate wine we here regale,
And rob the lobster of his scarlet mail;
On either side low fertile vallies lie,
The distant prospects tire the travelling
eye." *Gay.*

The cyclist who attempts this ride must expect long, unridable ascents, and long, dangerous, and also unridable descents.

As we commence the ascent the remarkable conical eminence of **Colmer's Hill**, almost volcanic in its outline, is a striking object on the rt. At its foot lies

1½ m. rt. **Symondsbury**, the birthplace of Addison's friend and fellow-worker Eustace Budgell, the son of the rector of the parish, who, maddened by losses in the South Sea Bubble, drowned himself at London Bridge, 1737. The cruciform *Ch.*, with central tower lessening as it rises, deserves notice. Bp. Gulston, of Bristol, Addison's maternal uncle, is buried in the chancel (d. 1684).

2¾ m. **Chideock**, the seat of an ancient family of the same name, whose noble house, continually taken and retaken in the Great Rebellion, was at last "slighted" (*i.e.* ruined) by order of Colonel Ceeley, governor of Lyme, 1645. The remains were still standing in 1733, when Buck published a

view of them. The site of the house may be traced in a field N.E. of the church. The *Ch.*, restored 1880, is mostly Perp., and contains an effigy of a knight in plate-armour, probably of Sir John Arundell, on an altar-tomb of black marble. The manor-house is the seat of H. F. Weld, Esq., J.P., in whose grounds is a richly decorated Catholic church. The mortuary chapel of the Catholic cemetery is also adorned with paintings, one of which, a representation of the Crucifixion, was executed by the late lord of the manor, Mr. C. Weld. A little stream running through the valley enters the sea at **Down Cliffs**. Another long climb brings us to the hamlet of

4¼ m. **Morcomb Lake** (296 ft. above sea), commanding a wide view over the Vale of Marshwood and the remarkable hills which encircle it. To the l. lies **Golden Cap**, with its signal station 610 ft. above the sea that washes its base; rt. is **Hardown Hill**, looking down upon Whitchurch.

[To the rt. spreads the deep enclosed district known as the **Vale of Marshwood**. This district is little visited, and presents no very attractive features, except in the early summer, when it is a perfect blaze of wild flowers. It is truly spoken of as "a terrible rough country," based on the cold stiff clay of the lias. Crowe, who knew it well, thus describes it:—

"In wintry days,
Cold, vapourish, miry, wet, and to the
flocks
Unfriendly when autumnal rains begin
To drench the spongy turf."

Crowe's Lewesdon Hill.

It is, however, remarkable for the large size of its oaks. Loudon mentions a tree of this kind, on the estate of *Stockham*, below Lewesdon Hill, as 52 ft. in height and 22 ft. in circumference. "It stands," he says, "singly on rising ground, and attracts the notice of travellers." The *chapel* of Marshwood was ruined in the Great Rebellion. Of the *castle* there are some remains of a Norman keep. A vineyard existed at Marshwood at the time of Domesday, being one of the two mentioned in this county; the other was at Durweston.

The capital of this ill-favoured tract of ground is 1 m. N., **Whit-church Canonorum**, one of the largest parishes in the county, lying in the heart of the vale, the soil of which is uninvitingly described by Hutchins as "rich, deep, and dirty," with roads almost impassable in winter or wet summers. Since his time some improvement has taken place. The name of the parish points to a time when its church of *white* stone was a notable object among the wattled or wooden edifices with which the religion of our early ancestors was contented. Other authorities derive it from Saint Candida, whose well was shown in Coker's time. The name *Canonorum* was given in consequence of the rectory being appropriated to the canons of Salisbury and Wells. The kings of Wessex had large estates in this vicinity. Whit-church was bequeathed, under the name of "Witan-cercian," by King Aelfred to his youngest son, Aethelward.

The *Ch.*, which is said to be dedicated to the Holy Cross and

St. Candida (the village feast-day falls on the Sunday within the octave of Holy Cross Day, September 26th, and near the feast of St. Candida, September 20th), deserves notice (restored 1849). It is cruciform, with a W. tower. The chancel and part of the nave are Trans.-Norm., of which style the S. door is a beautiful example, the transepts c. 1200, the tower c. 1400. The nave arcade is partly Trans.-Norm. The capitals merit attention, the oak roof c. 1400. The font is coeval with the earliest part of the edifice. In the N. transept is a large altar-tomb to some of the De Mandeville family. In the chancel is a remarkably rich altar-tomb with pedimental canopy, and well-executed effigy to Sir John Jeffery, Knt., of Catherstone (d. 1611). There is also a tomb to John Wadham, of Catherstone, captain of Sandsfoot Castle, and Recorder of Lyme (d. 1584), and a slab with Lombardic capitals to Geoffrey de Luda and his wife Eleanor, with the matrix of a floriated cross.

Monkton Wyld, a parish formed in 1850 out of the last and Uplyme, in Devon, has a highly decorated modern church, with tower and spire, which contains much modern carved work.]

A long descent along the flank of **Stonebarrow Hill**, with the heights of **Catherstone** (where is a little church built by the late R. C. Hildyard, 1857, the bell a trophy from Sebastopol), **Coney-gore**, and **Lambert's Castle**, rising one beyond the other, before us, brings us to the little watering-place of

7 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. ★ **Charmouth**, 5 m. S.E. of Axminster Stat., a charming village in a lovely situation, with a sprinkling of villas slowly climbing the hill, called by Hutchins "the Plinlimmon of Dorset." It consists of one long street, or rather road, situated above the mouth of the *Char*, flowing from the abundant springs of the Vale of Marshwood, the leading feature of the view being the heights which hedge in the valley, particularly those from which the road has just descended.

It is a place with some historical memoirs. Here were fought two sanguinary battles between the piratical hordes of the Danes and Saxons. In the first, A.D. 833, the Saxons were commanded by Ecgberht, in the second, A.D. 840, by Aethelwulf. In both the Danes were victorious. At Charmouth, too, in the attempted escape of Charles II. to France, after his concealment at Trent, subsequent to his defeat at Worcester, occurred the incident which so nearly led to the discovery of the fugitive. A plan had been concerted with the captain of a merchantman trading to Lyme that a boat, at a particular hour of the night, should be sent to the beach at Charmouth. Charles rode hither under the guidance of Lord Wilmot and Colonel Wyndham, and rested at the little inn to await the appointed time. The suspicions of the wife of the owner of the vessel being awakened, she threatened to give instant information to the local authorities if he did not give up the engagement. No vessel therefore was forthcoming at the appointed hour, so that the fugitive was obliged to give up the enterprise, and to pass the night in the

village. The next morning it was found that his horse had cast a shoe, and the village blacksmith was summoned to repair the loss. This was a curious fellow, who remarked that "the horse's three shoes had been set in three different counties, and one of them in Worcestershire." The ostler, who was a Republican soldier, and who had had his suspicions already aroused, carried the information to the Puritan minister of the place, Bartholomew Wesley, the ancestor of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. From the minister it went to the magistrate, and from the magistrate to the captain of a troop of horse, who soon galloped with his men in pursuit. Fortunately for the King, they took the wrong road, and he escaped to Bridport, and thence by Broadwindsor to Salisbury. The "King's bedroom," in a part of the old inn now inhabited as a cottage, is pointed out. The house is the next above the chapel.

The late Henry Alford, Dean of Canterbury, was at school at Charmouth, to which he refers in his "School of the Heart" as "that steep-built village on the southern shore."

Charmouth began to emerge from its condition of an agricultural and fishing village at the beginning of the century, and to assume the character of a watering-place. Miss Austen, in her "Persuasion," speaks of its "high grounds and extensive sweeps of country, and its sweet retired bay, backed by dark cliffs, where fragments of low rock among the sands make it the happiest spot for watching the flow of the tide."

The *Ch.* was rebuilt in what passed for E.E. in 1836, and has been to some extent improved since.

The cliffs at Charmouth, descending in dark slopes to the sea, exhibit a fine section of the strata (described under Bridport), and abound in interesting fossil remains. These include the bones of colossal Saurians (see Lyme), of the Pterodactyle, and numerous fish. Ammonites and belemnites are found in great quantities on *Golden Cap*. The lias contains much bituminous matter and iron pyrites, which have frequently taken fire after heavy rains. Remarkable instances occurred in 1531 and 1751. A bed of gravel at the mouth of the river contains the bones of the elephant and rhinoceros and the remains of trees.

Trout and, in the proper season, salmon-peel may be caught in the *Char*, "a small irregular alder-fringed, playful river, full of strange fish, such as inland streams yield not—dabs and flounders and the like."—*Dean Alford*.

N. of Charmouth 3 m. is **Conie** (*i.e.* the King's) **Castle**, supposed to have been the camp of Ecgbert when he fought with the Danes, and 4 m. **Lambert's Castle**, another strong entrenchment, having triple mounds and ditches, pierced by three outlets. The area of the last is twelve acres, and shaped like a **D**. A fair is held here twice a year.

From the higher end of this village you ascend into a deep cutting called the **New Passage**. The road then skirts the slope of a great hill-crescent, with a beautiful view of Lyme far below on the margin of the sea. The descent is long and steep. One

on foot may shorten the distance by a field-path, which runs direct from the summit to the new *cemetery*, a pretty spot on the outskirts of the town.

9½ m. ★**LYME REGIS** (Pop. 2237). Lyme, described by Macaulay as "a small knot of steep and narrow alleys lying on a coast wild, rocky, and beaten by a stormy sea," is situated in a most romantic position at the foot of the hills, being built in the hollow and on the slopes of a deep combe, "the principal street almost hurrying into the water" (*Miss Austen*), through which flows the small stream of the *Lym*, or *Buddell*, to the sea. It is seated on a grand coast, which rises E. in the blackest precipices and W. in broken crags thickly mantled with wood. The climate is very mild during the winter, and it is at all times exceedingly healthy. The neighbourhood is so abundant in beauty and interest, that we may thoroughly accept Miss Austen's dictum that "he must be a very strange stranger who does not see charms enough in the immediate vicinity of Lyme to make him wish to know it better."

Leland describes Lyme as "a praty market town set in the rootes of an high rokky hille down to the hard shore. There cummith a shalow broke from the hilles about a three miles by north, and cummith fleting on great stones through a stone bridge in the botom."

Lyme first appears (A.D. 774) in a charter of Kynewulf, king of the West Saxons, who granted one manse to the abbey of Sherborne to supply the monks with salt. Edward I. enfranchised it, and

granted it the liberties of a haven and borough, and assigned it as part of the dower of his sister, Margaret of Scotland (?). It supplied Edward III. with four ships and sixty-two mariners for the siege of Calais, but was much impoverished during the reigns of Henry IV. and V., when it was twice plundered and burnt by the French. It also suffered much from inroads of the sea. The men of Lyme furnished two ships to the fleet which met the Spanish Armada in 1588. The first engagement between the two fleets was in sight of the hills above the town. During the Great Rebellion it was held by the Parliament against the King, and successfully withstood a siege which was one of the most important of the time, the failure of which greatly tarnished the military reputation of Prince Maurice. It commenced on April 20th, 1644, and lasted till June 15th, when the town was relieved by the approach of the Earl of Essex. The defence was maintained with the utmost heroism by the inhabitants, under the command of Colonel Ceely, the governor, assisted by Blake, afterwards the well-known admiral. Even women took part in the defence. One is said to have discharged sixteen muskets at one attack. A maid who had one hand cut off professed her readiness to lose not only her other hand, but her life also, in the cause. The besiegers concentrated their force at *Colway* and *Hay*, in the former of which Prince Maurice had his quarters. He was supported by Lord Talbot, etc., with 2500 men. The town was speedily invested, batteries were raised, frequent assaults made, and the inhabitants soon began to suffer all the miseries of a siege. The arrival of the Lord High Admiral, Lord Warwick, on May 23rd, with a small naval force, greatly encouraged them;

but provisions ran short, and the condition of the town began to wax desperate, when the approach of Lord Essex forced the besiegers to raise the siege and retire. On May 16th, Hugh Peters, who had supported the courage of the inhabitants by his fiery eloquence, preached a thanksgiving sermon for the deliverance of the town. Lyme is said not to have lost more than 120 men during the siege, while the loss of the besiegers nearly reached 2000, whom they buried near Colway. The Parliament testified their sense of the importance of the result of the siege by a vote of £2000 and twenty-six dozen pairs of shoes and other gratuities to the men of Lyme.

The next event of historic interest that illustrates the annals of Lyme is the landing of the Duke of Monmouth, June 11th, 1685. Immediately on reaching the shore Monmouth knelt down and thanked God for having preserved the friends of liberty and pure religion from the perils of the sea, and implored the divine blessing on his enterprise. The townspeople at once espoused his cause with enthusiasm. The little town was in an uproar with men running to and fro, and shouting, "A Monmouth! a Monmouth! the Protestant religion!" His ensign was set up in the market-place, his military stores were placed in the Town Hall, and his declaration was read from the cross. The Mayor, Alford, was a zealous Tory, and immediately gave the alarm to the neighbouring gentry, and took horse for the west, despatching a few hurried lines with the ill tidings to London. An event of evil omen clouded the outset of Monmouth's enterprise. Fletcher of Saltoun having quarrelled with Dare, Monmouth's secretary, about a horse he had seized, drew a pistol and shot him dead, and was forced to retreat

to the ships to escape the clamorous vengeance. Still recruits came in by hundreds, among whom was Daniel De Foe, then about twenty-four years old. Arming and drilling went on all day, and in spite of the repulse of Grey, who had marched with 500 men to attack Bridport, and "never stopt till they were safe in Lyme again," a sufficient force was raised by June 15th to present so formidable a front to Albemarle at Axminster as to cause him to retreat. The unfortunate town soon had to pay for its burst of enthusiasm. After Jeffreys' bloody assize at Dorchester, thirteen townsmen were executed here September 12th, among whom were William Hewling, a lad of nineteen, whose brother Benjamin ("They were young, handsome, accomplished, and well connected"—*Macaulay*) perished at Taunton—the corpse of William Hewling was carried to his grave in the churchyard "by young women of the best of the town"—and Christopher Battiscombe, "a young Templar of family and fortune of Dorchester, where he was regarded as the model of a fine gentleman. He was engaged to the sister of the High Sheriff, who threw herself at the feet of Jeffreys to beg for mercy; but he drove her from him with a hideous jest. He suffered at Lyme firmly and courageously."—*Macaulay*.

Cosmo di Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany, landed here on his visit to England in 1669, March 30th. The English and Dutch fleets had an engagement off Lyme in 1672, in which the latter were defeated.

William Pitt, then "a wonderful boy of fourteen," spent the summer of 1773 at Lyme with his elder brother, for the benefit of sea-bathing. There Hayley the poet became acquainted with him, and "often reflected on the singular

pleasure he had derived from his young acquaintance, regretting, however, that his reserve had prevented his imparting to the wonderful youth the epic poem he had begun, the very youngest critic that ever perhaps any poet chose."—*Stanhope*, "Life of Pitt," i. 4.

"This town," says Leland, "hath good shippes, and usith fishing and marchaundise. Marchaunts of Morleys in Britaine" (Morlaix in Brittany) much "haunt this town." In Camden's time it was hardly reported a seaport town, and was frequented by few but fishermen. Salt, wine, and wool were among the early articles of commerce, and trade in elephants' tusks and gold dust was carried on with the African coast. The trade with Morlaix, mentioned by Leland, was in serges and linens only manufactured here, a branch of commerce which was totally destroyed at the breaking out of the war with France, temp. William III. From this date the general trade of the town began to decline, and at the end of the 18th century was almost extinct. About 1760 the prosperity of the town was at its lowest ebb. It had but little shipping, few respectable inhabitants, and no influx of strangers. After this it became a place of resort for sea-bathers, and its fortunes began to revive.

It is well sheltered from the N. and E. winds, so that the climate is warm in winter, while the sea-breezes temper the too great heat during the summer. The bathing is good, the sands pleasant, and the force of the sea is broken by the Cobb. There is not much gaiety; but Lyme affords an agreeable resort for those who wish to spend a quiet holiday by the seaside, and its neighbourhood affords many at-

tractions in its varied scenery and the geological riches of its cliffs.

The **church** (St. Michael's), which has been well restored, is a Perp. building of some merit, standing perilously near the edge of the crumbling cliff at the E. end of the town. The ground-plan is curious, a large Late Perp. church having been added to the E. of the low rude tower of a cruciform church of the 12th century. A stump of the original nave remains to the W. of the tower, and serves as vestibule and vestry-room. On the capitals of the nave are the initials of William Day, mayor in 1491, and the Harrington knot, commemorating the benefaction of Cicely Bonville, Lady Harrington, of Shute (d. 1480). A Jacobean gallery and pulpit, the gift of Richard Harvey, mercer of London and merchant-adventurer of Lyme, deserve notice. The three largest bells were cast into cannon during the siege. W. Hewling's tomb, originally to the S. of the churchyard, has been removed, and a portion of the inscriptions worked into the pavement of the N. aisle.

Among the natives of Lyme may be named *Sir George Somers* (b. 1554), the discoverer of the Bermudas, or "Somers' Isle": he died at Bermuda 1610, and was buried at Whitchurch Canonicorum; *Arthur Gregory*, whose "admirable talent of forcing the seal of a letter that it appeared untouched" recommended him to Sir F. Walsingham, then member for Lyme, who by his means obtained knowledge of the contents of the correspond-

ence of the foreign ambassadors, as well as of Mary, Queen of Scots; *Captain Thomas Coram* (b. c. 1668), the founder of "The Foundling Hospital" in London; *Dr. Case*, quack and astrologer in the reign of James II.; Case made a large fortune by his practice, and on setting up a carriage placed the following quaint motto under his arms: "The Case is altered"; and, lastly, *Mary Anning* (d. 1847), who discovered the Saurian remains. She was the daughter of a vendor of curiosities, and was only ten years of age when, in 1811, she found the first Saurian in the cliff, now in the British Museum. A painted window has been put up in the church to her memory by the members of the Geological Society.

The **George Inn**, where Monmouth slept during his stay at Lyme, was burnt down. 1844.

The **Cobb**, or pier, so called from a very remote period. It was probably first constructed in the reign of Edward I. It has been frequently washed away and restored at a great price, and was finally renewed and strengthened in 1825-6, after the tremendous storm of November 23rd, 1824, when 232 ft. of the pier and 447 ft. of the parapet were rebuilt at a cost of £17,337. It is a semicircular structure, of great strength, the thick outer wall rising high above the roadway, so as to protect it from the wind and sea. Its length is 1179 ft., and its extreme breadth 35 ft. The regular curve of this parapet produces a singular effect. It concentrates at a certain point the sounds uttered at another,

and thus forms a "whispering gallery," in which two persons may converse at a distance from each other, as in the dome of St. Paul's. For this purpose one speaker should take his station by the steps near the tablet, and the other by the slip. The view from this pier is extremely beautiful, extending across the West Bay to Portland. Close at hand are hills whose bleak, bare fronts descend in precipices to the sea, tier upon tier. The most remarkable of these is called **Golden Cap**, a well-known landmark. Above the town rises **Rhodeshorn**, its summit pierced by the cutting of **New Passage**, sometimes called the **Devil's Bellows**, from the extreme fury of the gusts which sweep through it. The pier is a busy spot, there being a considerable export of cement stones, now so largely used for stucco. To the geologist the cliffs will be a mine of interest. The spot most prolific in the bones of reptiles is the **Black Vein**, between Lyme and Charmouth. The cliffs waste rapidly under the assault of the sea, the **Church Cliffs** at Lyme receding at the rate of 3 ft. a year. Charmouth Lane, which once traversed them from Lyme to Charmouth, has long since disappeared.

Among the walks in the neighbourhood may be mentioned—

(a) To the **Undercliff**, W. of the town. The path proceeds to it through Holmbush Field, commanding a fine view of the coast, and then runs for about a mile along the broken ground, as far as **Pinhay House**. The path passes at one spot the **Chimney**

Rock, projecting from the **Ware Cliffs**, and at another the **White-chapel Rocks**, so called as the place of meeting of Nonconformists, who, being persecuted after the Restoration, met for worship in this solitude.

(b) To **Middle Mill**, about a mile up the combe at the back of the town. In its vicinity are **Old Colway House** and **Hay Farm**, the headquarters of Prince Maurice when he besieged Lyme.

(c) To **Charmouth** by the sands when the tide permits it.

(d) The **Dowlands Landslip** is rather more distant than the preceding, but still within an easy walk. You take the lane to *Dowlands Farm*, 3 m., and thence proceed along a cart-road down the cliff. The entire coast between Lyme and the mouth of the river Axe has been the scene of disturbances similar to those which have produced such charming scenery in the Isle of Wight, and to be attributed to the same cause—the undermining action of the land springs. The chalk and sandstone forming the upper portion of the down rests on loose sand, which in its turn reposes on an impervious bed of clay shelving towards the shore. The rain, percolating the upper beds, collects on the clay, and washes away the sand as it filters to the sea. Cavities are thus formed, and into these at length the superstratum is precipitated, and being rent by the convulsion, it glides forward on its slippery basis. Such landslips have occurred along this coast at various periods, but that

of Dowlands was remarkable for the extent of ground it devastated, and for the wild scene it created. It occurred at Christmas, 1839, over an area of forty acres, on the farms of Bendon and Dowlands. The damage done was considerable; forty acres of good land had been lost for ever to cultivation, an orchard had been roughly transplanted, and two cottages moved bodily, and deposited with shattered walls at a much lower level. The finest views are to be obtained from the brink of the cliffs overhanging the landslip, from the cottage, from the knolls near the sea, and from the E. end of the great chasm, which is situated just W. of the mural precipice. The features of the scene are much changed since the landslip occurred, and are continually changing. A path runs E. for about 1 m., ascending again at *Whitlands*, 2 m. from Lyme, where a small landslip occurred Feb., 1840, a month or two after that at Dowlands. The farmhouse at *Bendon*, nearly opposite the great chasm, and rt. of the lane to Axmouth, retains the interesting features of a manor-house of the 16th century. It was long a seat of a branch of the Erles. Sir Walter Erle, a distinguished officer on the side of the Parliament, resided here. Bendon is about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. both from Axmouth and the ferry at Seaton.

Hawksdown, over Axmouth, and **Musbury**, to the N. of it, are Roman camps commanding the valley of the Axe, and affording extensive views. **Conie Castle** and **Lambert's Castle**, the strong entrenchments in the Vale of

Marshwood, N. of Charmouth, and **Lewesdon** and **Pillesdon**, curious twin hills further N., are often visited from Lyme. It is also possible to visit Forde Abbey (10 m. N.) from here.

ROUTE 15.

DORCHESTER TO YEOVIL
(MAIDEN NEWTON TO BRIDPORT).

(*G. W. Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Dorchester.
$4\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Grimstone.
$7\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Maiden Newton.
	Maiden Newton.
$2\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Toller.
$6\frac{3}{4}$ m.	Powerstock.
$9\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Bridport.
$11\frac{1}{4}$ m.	West Bay.
	Maiden Newton.
$11\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Evershot.
$20\frac{1}{2}$ m.	Yeovil.

Leaving the G.W. Stat. on For-dington Field, the rly. skirts the W. side of the town, and dives in a tunnel under Poundbury Camp. Emerging into the valley of the Frome, we have rt. **Wolfeton Hall** and **Charminster**.

At $2\frac{1}{4}$ m. we cross the Frome, and espy l. among the orchards the spire of **Bradford Peverel Church**, rebuilt 1850 (the broad ford across the Frome); rt. is **Stratton**, "the street town," taking its name from its position on the Roman way. A very curious wooden staircase in the tower of the *Ch.* deserves notice. There is a blocked Norm. door-way, and the remains of niches

in the windows of the S. aisle should be noted. In the churchyard is the base of a stone cross.

$4\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Grimstone** Stat., where we look over the green meadows and runnels of water to the woods of Frampton. Here we enter a tunnel of 600 yards through the chalk, on emerging from which we have

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. **Frampton** (Frometown), embowered in umbrageous woods, and surrounded by gently rising hills. It was formerly a cell of St. Stephen's of Caen. For many generations the seat of the family of Browne, it passed by will in 1833 to Sir Colquhoun Grant, a distinguished military officer, who served in the Peninsular campaign, and had five horses shot under him at Waterloo. His daughter married the grandson and namesake of the famous Richard Brinsley Sheridan. **Frampton Court** (A. T. B. Sheridan, Esq.) was built in 1704 by Robert Browne, Esq., who also added an incongruous tower to the **church**, which was thoroughly restored in 1862, and contains memorials of the Brownes from Rear-Admiral Sir John (d. 1627). The ancient stone pulpit is adorned with figures in monastic attire, bearing ecclesiastical vessels and books, and a modern relief of the Virgin and Child. There are several windows to members of the Sheridan family, and also one to the eldest son of the Hon. Caroline Norton, the prototype of "Diana of the Crossways." The visitor looks in vain for a memorial to John Browne, the zealous Parliamentarian (d. 1659), styled by Oliver Cromwell the "old Roman," for

the determination with which he gave his vote for bringing Charles I. to trial.

A very celebrated mosaic pavement, in which the Christian "labarum" appeared in singular combination with figures of Neptune and Cupid, and other pagan emblems, was discovered at *Frampton*, 1794-6, on Mr. Sheridan's estates. George III. took so much interest in the discovery that he ordered a detachment of soldiers to be placed at Mrs. Lysons' disposal for its careful disinterment. It was afterwards covered over with earth again.

Continuing along rich cattle-studded water-meadows, we pass l. 2 m. **Frome Vauchurch**, with its *Ch.*, which has a Norm. chancel arch, N. doorway and piscina, an E.E. triplet, and a good Jacobean pulpit, and reach

$7\frac{3}{4}$ m. ★ **Maiden Newton** Stat. Maiden Newton was given by the Conqueror to "Waleran the hunter." The *Ch.* is erected on the site where apparently a Saxon chapel originally stood. This was succeeded by a Norm. cruciform church, with probably an apsidal termination. In the Dec. period a side aisle and enlarged transept were added, and the church was twice altered in the Perp. period, when a third bay was added to the nave, and a side aisle. The central tower is probably Norm. up to the first string-course, Perp. above. The N. door (blocked) is Norm., and so are the pillars and arch to the chancel, and there are other remains of the same period. The curious old roof had to be altered recently on account of its insecurity.

The father of Dr. Andrew Reed, the founder of the London Orphan Asylum and other philanthropic institutions (d. 1862), was born at Maiden Newton, where his family had been settled for some generations.

2½ m. E., crossing the Roman road from Dorchester to Ilchester known as Long Ash Lane, **Sydling St. Nicholas** lies in a pleasant nook in the chalk downs. The *Ch.* is a plain, solid Late Perp. building, with a stately tower, a N. porch the whole height of the nave, a chancel, rebuilt 1750 by Sir W. Smith, a Norm. font, and a remarkably fine series of gargoyles. In the churchyard stands the manor-house, originally the residence of the Husseys, then of the Smiths. A very fine tithe-barn stands to the S.E. of the church, bearing on one of its oak timbers the initials of Lady Ursula Walsingham, 1590, wife of Sir F. Walsingham, lessee under Winchester College. In the village is the shaft of an ancient cross.

[A branch line of the G.W. Rly. here diverges to Bridport, 9¼ m. S.W. It runs at first up a valley watered by a little feeder of the Frome, under Whitesheet Hill, N., and passes 1½ m. l. **Toller Fra-trum**, so called because originally the property of the brethren of St. John of Jerusalem, the *Ch.* of which (St. Basil) has a fine Norm. font with the bowl covered with sculptured figures. Here was the seat of the Samways and Fulfords, of which a large portion remains. It is one of the most picturesque specimens

of domestic architecture remaining in Dorsetshire, with very rich details, especially the chimneys. The principal part was probably erected by Sir Francis Fulford, the distinguished Royalist, at the beginning of the 17th century.

Cattistock Castle is a circular earthwork, containing about four acres, with a double rampart.

2½ m. **Toller Porcorum** Stat., a place deriving its uneuphonious name from the number of swine that formerly found food here. The *Ch.*, with its square embattled tower, is a picturesque object from the rly.

[**Wynford Eagle**, 2 m. S., was the birthplace of Sydenham, the famous physician in the reign of Charles II. (b. 1624). The old house of the Sydenhams remains, containing a richly carved fireplace. Chief Justice Best took his title of Lord Wynford from this place. The modern *Ch.* preserves outside the E. end a very remarkable tympanum of a Norm. door, with enigmatical inscriptions. At Lord Wynford's cottage at Stratcombe, remains of a Roman villa with tessellated pavements have been discovered.]

The line runs towards Bridport over a rolling gorse-covered common to

6¾ m. **Powerstock** Stat. (Beaminster is 5 m. N.W.). **Powerstock Castle** is a Celtic earthwork, enclosing the site of a castle or manor-house connected by local tradition with King Aethelstan, who is said to have had a winter palace here, occupying the summit of a steep isolated hill. King John visited his manor

at Powerstock in 1205 and onwards. The *Ch.* has been rebuilt, preserving all the more interesting features, including the rich Norm. chancel arch, the S. arcade of the nave, and the S. door, with its elaborate niches, the principal one containing a figure of the Blessed Virgin and Child, and pinnacles. 1 m. S.E. is the remarkable entrenchment of **Eggardon Hill** (Rte. 14). To the rt. of the rly. in a nook in the hills stretches the long grey front of **Mappercombe**, worth inspection.

$7\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Loders Ch.**, a picturesque object from the rly., is mainly Perp., with a Norm. font and a rich octagonal staircase-turret, and a fine Perp. tower, and contains a monument to Sir Evan Nepean (d. 1822). At the base of the tower is an ancient carving of the Crucifixion. A cell of the Norman monastery of Monteburg was founded here by Baldwin de Redvers, temp. Henry I.

$9\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Bridport** (Rte 14).

Returning to the main line—

$15\frac{1}{4}$ m. l. **Chilfrome**, with a small modern bell-gabled *Ch.*, stands at the base of Chilfrome Down, across the S. flank of which runs the Crewkerne road, known by the very curious name of *Crimmer Crock Lane*. A little further on the other side of the line the traveller has a glimpse of the fine E.E. *Ch.* of Cattistock, nearly rebuilt, and elaborately decorated, and further still of the gables and chimneys of *Chalmington House* (G. H. Digby, Esq.).

$16\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. **Wraxhall** was the seat of the Laurences, two of whom, William and Henry, were of note in the civil disturbances of Charles I.'s time. Milton's sonnet—

“Laurence, of virtuous father virtuous son,” was addressed to the son of the latter, who was a member of Cromwell's Parliament of 1653, President of the Council, and member of his Upper House. The little *Ch.* has a bell-turret, a Norm. door and chancel arch, and E.E. chancel.

2 m. up the valley is **Rampisham** (pronounced *Ransom*), known for its prettily situated church, and for the base and foot curiously sculptured **cross** (in the churchyard) with a long flat stone for preaching attached to it. There can with some difficulty be traced the stoning of St. Stephen, the martyrdoms of St. Eadmund and of St. Thomas à Becket, and two crowned figures sitting at a long table, with a man kneeling on one knee. Over the projections at each end of the panels are carved St. Peter, with a scroll, the cock standing on a pillar; two fools and two monks seated; and two men in armour standing. The whole sculpture is now nearly obliterated, with the exception of the stoning of St. Stephen. In the lane which runs to Evershot is the mutilated shaft of another cross, 5 ft. high. The *Ch.*, which is a very good one, has been partly rebuilt, and is well arranged with a stalled chancel. The tower is at the E. end of the S. aisle, and has the traces of an altar and reredos on the E. wall. The Manor-house (A. Martin, Esq., D.L., J.P.) is a

charming and ancient building covered with ivy, close by the church. A tessellated pavement was discovered here in 1799 on the common to the W. of the village. It is now in the museum at Dorchester.

17½ m. l. the long gabled front of the manor-house of **Chantmarle**, robbed of its wings, attracts attention, and is worth examining. [It is a pleasant walk of 3 m. from the Maiden Newton Stat., by Cattistock and Chalmington. Evershot Stat. is 1½ m. N. distant.] It was built A.D. 1619 by Sir John Strode, but never completed. Detached from the house S. stands the chapel, a curious specimen of the debased Gothic of the period. A very curious account of the building of this chapel and its consecration by Bp. Searchfield, of Bristol, September 14th, 1619, is given in the last edition of Hutchins' "Dorset."

To the rt. is **Frome St. Quintin**, where the small *Ch.* has some Norm. portions and a good Perp. porch.

11¼ m. **Evershot** Stat. Just beyond the stat. is *Holywell tunnel*, a very difficult and expensive work, as it is excavated in a loose greensand full of springs. It pierces the hill in a curve 220 yards. The village is 1 m. W. St. John's spring, which rises here, is one of the chief sources of the river Frome.

The *Ch.*, a chapelry of Frome St. Quintin, has been almost rebuilt, but retains its N. arcade and other ancient portions. 1½ m. E., romantically situated at the foot of the chalk down, is **Bat-**

combe Ch., rebuilt 1864, except the fine embattled W. tower and the S. wall. The font is Norm. and very curious. A tomb in the churchyard, formerly touching the wall of the aisle, according to the village legend, covers the grave of "Conjuring Minterne, who vowed that he would be buried neither in the church nor out of it." In a wild unfrequented spot on Batcombe Common, 1 m. E., is a singular stone pillar, associated with an incident in "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," called the "**Cross and Hand.**" The capital bears a hand, and was surmounted by a bowl. An ancient tumulus, **Modbury** or **Modbarrow**, gives its name to the hundred.

***MELBURY PARK**, the seat of the Fox-Strangways, earls of Ilchester, is situated immediately to the N. of Evershot, and the road through it is a public footway. Under the name of "Great Hintock Court," it forms the scene of "The First Countess of Wessex" in "A Group of Noble Dames." The house was built, according to Leland, by Sir Giles Strangways, who died 1547, "with a lofty and fresche tower." Much of the mansion is earlier, but none before the 15th century. The plan forms three limbs of a cross, with a hexagon tower at the intersection. In the S. limb are a fine oriel and a rich Elizabethan ceiling and fireplace. The E. front is of Queen Anne's time, with Corinthian pilasters. The saloon contains several fine pictures—a good Rembrandt, Canalettos, etc.; and in the dining-room is a replica, if not the original, of the picture of Queen

Elizabeth's progress described under Sherborne Castle. The library, with an open timber roof, was added from Mr. Salvin's designs. The view of the house standing on its rising lawn, with its quaint front and tower, as seen from the lake below, is very picturesque. On the S. side is the *Ch.* of **Melbury Sampford**, a structure with pinnaced tower, a very small church, cross, all of same date, 15th century, restored, with new roofs to nave and chancel, oaken stalls, pulpit, at the cost of the Earl of Ilchester, 1876. The reredos of marble represents the Last Supper, and the chancel walls are enriched with carvings and inlaid marbles. There are two canopied tombs and a statue by Chantrey to the Countess of Ilchester. It contains several monuments to the Brownings, and one, with alabaster effigies, to "Egidius Strangewaies" and "Dorothee" his wife. There is also a brass to Sir Giles Strangways, 1562. On the S. side a sloping lawn descends to a lake in a charming dell, from which rises a wood terraced at the top. W. of the house is a remarkably fine avenue of four rows of sycamores, N. of it a grove of lofty oaks, limes, ycamores, and chestnuts, and E., beyond a valley, the wooded eminence of **Bubb Down**, a conspicuous landmark, over which are numerous drives commanding most extensive and beautiful prospect. Alfred's Tower at Bourton, Wells Cathedral, the Mendips and Quantocks, may be seen at different points. Towards the S. a road traverses the park to *Evershot*, and towards the N. another directs its course between

two valleys (each with its stream) to the little village of **Melbury Osmund**, decked with innumerable creepers, ivy, and laurel hedges, and a curious old yew-tree leaning over the road. It appears to have been the *Melberie* which was one of the manors of Rogerius Arundell in Domesday, and continued in that family until recently, when it was sold by the eighth Lord Arundell. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1745. The estate of Melbury is distinguished for the size of its oaks, which thrive on the stiff, retentive soil. One known as *Billy Wilkins*, 50 ft. high and 37 ft. in circumference, is "as curled, surly, knotty an old monster as can be conceived."

The Oxford clay of this district contains masses of septaria or cement-stone, which are polished under the name of *Melbury marble*.

The rly. has now reached its highest point, and begins to descend towards Yeovil, accompanying a small stream, one of the affluents of the river Yeo. *Bubb Down* rises to the l.; rt. is the village of **Chetnole**, with a Perp. *Ch.*, to which a well-designed chancel and aisle have been added as a memorial to the late Major Chadwick (d. 1859). *Chetnole House* (Major W. G. D. Wingfield-Digby, J.P.). Chetnole is a chapelry to

16 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Yetminster** (the *minster* or church standing at the *gate* in the line of downs through which the little river flows). The *Ch.*, with a pinnaced tower, is an interesting Perp. building, retaining many of its ancient carved oak benches and corbels, and traces of the spiral wooden staircase of

a rood-loft. There were three altars: one in the chancel, the piscina of which has disappeared, apparently when the chancel was lengthened; a second at the E. end of the S. aisle, with a piscina; and the third at the E. end of the N. aisle, also with piscina in pier on rt. side of altar. There are ten consecration crosses in the jambs or sills of the windows and on the buttresses, all outside, and one at the apex of the W. doorway. There is a stone seat on the W. wall of N. and S. aisles. In the S.W. wall is mounted the base of a former E.E. font. It has a fine brass to Sir John de Horsey, in complete armour (d. 1531), and his lady; and in the roof a boss at the intersection of the third principal rafter with the purlin bears his crest, a horse's head bridled, argent. There is a holy-water stoup on the buttress on the W. side of the S. door and traces of a sun-dial on the other.

At **Leigh**, 2 m. E. of Chetnole, are some small traces of a maze about $\frac{1}{4}$ m. S. of the village. In the village are the remains of two ancient crosses. The *Ch.* is a good Perp. building, with an embattled tower and good oak roofs.

19 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. is **Clifton Maybank** Stat., close to the remains of the fine old manorial house of Clifton Maybank.

20 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Yeovil** ("Handbook for Somerset").

ROUTE 16.

DORCHESTER TO SHERBORNE BY CERNE ABBAS.

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Dorchester.
2 m.	Charminster.
7 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Cerne Abbas.
11 m.	Middlemarsh.
13 $\frac{1}{4}$ m.	Holnest.
18 m.	Sherborne.

Leaving Dorchester, and crossing the Frome with Poundbury on the l., we reach

2 m. **Charminster** (Rte. 13). The road continues to ascend the valley of the little river Cerne to 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Godmanstone**. The little *Ch.* is of debased Perp., with the exception of the chancel arch and S. porch, which shows some original Norm. work with recent additions.

5 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Nether Cerne**. The little flint-built *Ch.* is chiefly E.E., and has an eastern triplet. The S. chantry chapel is Early Dec., and has some good features. The font of Purbeck marble has a cup-shaped bowl and later base.

7 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. * **CERNE ABBAS** (Pop. 834) is a small town, once notorious for smugglers, on the river Cerne, surrounded by chalk hills. It is the "Abbot's Cernel" of the Wessex Novels.

It was the site of a very large and important abbey, founded A.D. 987 by Æthelmar, Earl of Devon and Cornwall, on the site of a hermitage established by Ædwold, brother of Eadmund the Martyr. The famous Ælfric, afterwards

Archbishop of Canterbury, was the first abbot. He had been sent to Cerne by the Bishop of Winchester, to whom Æthelmar had applied for a monk to instruct his new society in the Benedictine rule. He translated his homilies into Anglo-Saxon for the benefit of the brethren of Cerne who were unacquainted with Latin. The monastery was plundered by Cnut, who afterwards atoned for his sacrilege by large endowments. Its after-history supplies nothing worthy of mention till 1471, when Margaret of Anjou took refuge here with her young son on landing from the Continent at Weymouth, the day of the battle of Barnet. From Cerne she proceeded to Beaulieu ("Handbook for Hants"). Cardinal Morton, Archbishop of Canterbury, was a monk of Cerne.

The only remains of the abbey consist of the *Gatehouse*, the *Abbey-house*, and a very fine *barn*. The **Gatehouse** is a very fine one of three stories, with a two-storied oriel window over the fan-groined entrance, with escutcheons, and bands of panelling below and between the windows. The upper room is floored with encaustic tiles. The **Abbey-house** was the residence of Denzil, Lord Holles. Of the ancient structure little exists except a ruin or two of that part built by Abbot John Vaune (d. 1470), in which his cipher 'J. V.' may be seen over a chimney. Near the ruins is a spring called after St. Augustine, who is traditionally the founder of the abbey. The **barn** of the 15th century, now connected with a farmhouse, is a very fine example, with noble buttresses. Some traces of the park and

gardens can still be discerned. On the summit of a hill to the N.E. are the foundations of the Chapel of St. Catherine.

The **Church** is a fine example of the Perp. style, with a noble tower, displaying a beautiful canopied niche enshrining a statue of the Virgin and Child. The chancel is separated from the nave by a stone rood-screen (restored 1870). There is a good carved oak pulpit. N. of the churchyard is an earthwork.

Immediately above the town rises a lofty eminence, popularly called the **Giant's Hill**, from an uncouth *colossal figure cut on its chalky surface. It represents a man, 180 ft. in height, holding in his right hand a club 120 ft. long, and stretching forth the other. On the summit of the hill is an entrenchment called **Trendle** (*i.e.* a circle, A.-S.). **Up Cerne**, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.E., had a curious little E.E. *Ch.*, now rebuilt, much of the old stonework being preserved. It has a rude Purbeck marble font. Close to the church stands the picturesque mansion of the Mellors, built by Sir Robert Mellor (d. 1624) (Commander Hon. G. Fitz Maurice, R.N.). It has, on the outside, circles containing heads boldly carved.

$9\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Minterne Magna**, where is **Minterne House**, seat of Lord Digby, formerly the property of the Churchills, one of whom, General Charles Churchill, brother of John, Duke of Marlborough, almost entirely rebuilt the house. His monument is in the little unpretending *Ch.*, which also contains memorials of the

Napiers and of Mary, Countess of Gainsborough (d. 1693), and a brass to Admiral Digby (d. 1863). A hamlet near here is the scene of "The Woodlanders."

[**Buckland Newton** (or Abbas), 4 m. N.E., lying on the steep declivity of the chalk downs, belonged to the abbey of Glastonbury. The *Ch.* has a fine E.E. chancel, well restored, and a Perp. nave. The font is of very handsome design, ornamented with flat foliage and flowers. There is a curious carved-oak alms-box and a brass (1624) to a collateral ancestor of Barnes, the Dorset poet. 3 m. further N.E. is **Mappowder**, the birthplace of Coker, the author of the "Survey of Dorsetshire." The seat of the Cokers, built 1564, has been pulled down. The *Ch.*, of good, though Late Perp., style, has been almost entirely rebuilt, preserving ancient portions. The Purbeck marble font deserves notice. There is a very curious diminutive cross-legged effigy in complete armour, scarcely 2 ft. long, the hands holding a heart, under an arch in the S. wall. It probably marks the place where a heart was buried, the body lying elsewhere.

Piddletrenthide, 3 m. E., is a very pleasant village on the slopes of the chalk downs, which command wide and beautiful views. It is the "Longpuddle" of "A Few Crusted Characters." The *Ch.* is an interesting building, ranking as one of the finest in the country, with a lofty pinnacled tower. The S. doorway and the piers of the chancel arch are enriched Norm. The chancel

contains monuments to members of the family of Bridge. That to Mr. John Bridge (member of the firm Rundle and Bridge, Ludgate Hill, d. 1834) is by the late C. R. Cockerell, R.A. Over the W. door is the following inscription, probably commemorating Nicholas Locke, a native vicar, by whom the tower was erected:—

"Est Pydel trentth villa in Dorsedie comitatu
Nascitur in illa qua rexit vicariatu."

It bears the date 1487, a somewhat early example of the use of Arabic figures.]

10 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Revels Hill**, l. The road here descends the escarpment of the chalk, and commands an extensive view over Somerset. **High Stoy**, 2 m. to the l., is one of the loftiest of the Dorsetshire downs.

11 m. **Middlemarsh**, near the source of a branch of the river Lidden. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is a very conspicuous earthwork, now overgrown with trees, crowning a hill, known as **Dungeon**, which commands a fine view.

At the foot of this hill is **Wootton Glanville** (7 m. S.E. of Sherborne), long the residence of J. C. Dale, Esq., a well-known entomologist, and now of his son, C. W. Dale, who has inherited his father's collections and taste for the science. The *Ch.* deserves notice. The S. aisle, originally the chantry of Sybilla de Glanville, has some rich Dec. windows, and contains a recumbent effigy of a knight and some monuments of the Williams family. In this parish stands the ancient mansion of **Round Chimneys**, built c. 1590,

now a farmhouse, but once the residence of John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough.

[**Pulham Church**, 2 m. E. of Wootton, is an interesting building, originally cruciform, with aisles added in the 15th century. A hagioscope on each side of the chancel arch is curiously filled in with an open screenwork of oak painted and gilt. In the N. wall of the chancel is a canopied niche, which may have formerly contained a figure of the patron saint of the church, St. Thomas of Canterbury. The font has a circular bowl on a central column and three detached shafts ornamented with a series of shallow, round-headed arches.]

13 $\frac{1}{4}$ m. **Holnest Lodge** (A. T. Drake, Esq.), the seat of W. E. S. Erle Drax, Esq., stands in a park of 90 acres. It has a large picture gallery. In the park is a bronze statue of the late Mr. Drax, on a pillar. The *Ch.* is ancient.

15 m. **Long Burton.**

The *Ch.*, chiefly Perp., restored with new N. aisle 1873, is a rich Jacobean monument to Sir John FitzJames (d. 1625) and his wife, with effigies, and a monument with three effigies to Thomas Winston, Sir H. Winston, his son, "Lieutenant of the Brill," under Sir Thomas Cecil (d. 1609), and his wife Dionise, transferred from Standish, Gloucestershire, by their daughter Eleanor Fitz-James.

Leweston Park (R. Whitehead, Esq., the property of J. K. D. Wingfield-Digby, Esq., M.P.), 1 m. N.W. of Long Burton, was

originally the seat of Sir John FitzJames, Lord Chief Justice of King's Bench (d. 1539). The house was rebuilt 1800, but a chapel built by the Chief Justice was preserved. Bp. Ken visited Leweston, then the seat of the Hon. Mrs. Thynne, shortly before his death, August, 1710, and was there seized with his fatal illness.

[**Stoke Gayland Church**, 5 m. E., rebuilt 1885, contains a cross-legged recumbent effigy in a coat of mail, probably of the 13th century, in Hamhill stone, and supposed to represent Sir Ingelramus le Waleys. Its execution is somewhat inferior. The church stands on the grounds of *Stock House*, the residence of Major A. G. Dugdale, R.A., J.P.]

The road descends Dancing Hill, and, crossing the Yeo, reaches

18 m. **Sherborne** (Rte. 12).

ROUTE 17.

THE ISLE OF PURBECK AND THE COAST FROM SWANAGE TO WEST LULWORTH.

The *Isle of Purbeck* has no claim, regarded geographically, to the designation of an island. The eastern portion forms a bold promontory, divided from the mainland by the wide digitated expanse of Poole harbour, eaten out of the softer sands and clays by the erosion of the waves; but the remainder of the district cannot even be regarded as a peninsula. The civil boundaries are

nothing more than the little stream of *Luckford Lake*, which, rising near the park of Lulworth Castle, runs N., and joins the Frome near Holme Bridge, and the Frome itself. The so-called *Isle* forms an irregular oval some 12 m. in length by 10 in breadth. It is in many respects a very interesting district. To the admirers of fine scenery it offers the attractions of a heath 10 m. in length, of a range of downs nearly 700 ft. in height, commanding magnificent views, and of a rock-bound coast sometimes fronting the open sea, sometimes retiring in bays of remarkable beauty. The geologist also can here revel in a variety of strata, including beds of the tertiary, cretaceous, wealden, and oolitic formations, which are so arranged, by tilting of the strata on the eastern shore, that they may be as readily distinguished one from the other as books on a shelf. The southern part of the district is isolated by a range of chalk hills, known as the Purbeck Hills, running down to the sea at *Handfast Point*, between Studland and Swanage Bays to the E., and at Worbarrow Bay to the W., at both of which points the chalk rises in lofty perpendicular cliffs. Another range of hills of the oolitic formation runs nearly parallel with the chalk range to the S. from *Peveril Point*, E., to *Worbarrow Tout*, the southern point of Worbarrow Bay, W. Between these ranges lies a rich and fertile undulating valley of the Hastings sands, 11 m. long and from $\frac{3}{4}$ m. wide, diversified with a succession of isolated farms. Still further S., between the oolitic ridge and the sea, the coast-line presents a series of low-

level pasture lands in the Kimmeridge strata, and a succession of picturesque bays, extending from St. Aldhelm's Head westward. In ancient times the Isle of Purbeck was a royal deer-forest. Eadward the Martyr had been hunting in its hills when he was murdered by Ælfrith at Corfe; and successive kings continued to follow the chase here as late as the reign of James I. It is, however, better known for its quarries, which have been worked from a very early period, supplying both the shell-marble so largely used in the decoration of our more ancient cathedrals, and the free-stone employed for paving and building purposes.

The geological structure of the district is well displayed on the cliffs between Studland and Durlston Head, the beds dipping to the N., and so appearing in succession. First come the sandy slopes of the *Alum Bay series*, gay with a variety of colours. At Old Harry these give place to walls and flanking towers of *chalk*, with bands of flint at the Foreland, where the strata are tilted vertically. By their side are ranged *firestone*, *gault*, and *greensand*, three layers descending to the sea from the foot of the hills. Next come the beds of the *wealden* formation, viz., the *Hastings sand* and *Purbeck limestone*, the former sweeping round the bay to Swanage, which stands on the junction line; the latter appearing to the W. of the point of Peveril, and extending in curved and twisted strata to Durlston Head, where the *Portland oolite* emerges from the sea and forms the headland. Beneath Encombe and Gad Cliff appears

the *Kimmeridge clay*, with its beds of bituminous shale known as *Kimmeridge coal*. Ammonites of large size abound in the oolite, which is overlaid by the "dirt bed," which contains large trunks of trees, and in the wealden the bones of fish and of huge reptiles, the bucklers of turtles, the little bodies of flies and beetles. The teeth of fish are very numerous, and are called "fishes' eyes" by the quarrymen, who in 1847 first brought to light the *Swanage crocodile*, described by Dr. Mantell, and now in the British Museum. Remains of the iguanodon occur in the Hastings beds of Swanage Bay.

The chief place in the Isle of Purbeck is the popular seaside resort of ***SWANAGE** (Pop. 2674), reached by branch line from Wareham through Corfe. Its position is most attractive, and being open to the S.E., it is one of the coolest of our summer watering-places. The views from it are varied and extensive, embracing the Hampshire coast in long perspective, and the Isle of Wight, 15 m. distant. The sands are level and firm, and the bathing is excellent. There is a good pier, begun in 1859, at which the steamers touch at all states of the tide. It is the "Knollsea" of "The Hand of Ethelberta," and is thus described by the late C. Kingsley:—

"At the E. end of the Isle of Purbeck is a little semicircular bay, its northern horn formed by high cliffs of white chalk, ending in white isolated stacks and peaks, round whose feet the blue sea ripples for ever. In the centre of the bay the softer 'wealden beds' have been worn away, forming an

amphitheatre of low sand and clay cliffs. The southern horn is formed by the dark limestone beds of the Purbeck marble. A quaint old-world village slopes down to the water over green downs, quarried, like some gigantic rabbit-burrow, with the stone workings of 700 years. Landlocked from every breeze, huge elms flourish on the dry sea-beach, and the gayest and tenderest garden flowers bask under the hot stone walls. A pleasanter spot for summer sea-bathing is not to be found eastward of the Devon coast than Swanage."

There are numerous good lodging-houses in the no longer "quaint old-world village," some of which open on the green hill-side, and there are others in a suburb styled Mowlem Park. This derives its name from the late John Mowlem, Esq. (d. 1869), probably a descendant of "Durandus, the King's carpenter," named in Domesday, on whom William bestowed the manor of Moleham, in Swanage. In Edward I.'s reign one William de Moulham held lands in that manor by the service of the reparation of the great tower at Corfe Castle. The late Mr. Mowlem raised himself from the humble position of a quarryman to a leading position in London as a paving contractor, and became a great benefactor to his native place. The *Mowlem Institution*, erected 1863, with reading and lecture rooms, at the N. end of the town, was founded by him. A pillar has been erected close to this building to commemorate Alfred's victory over the Danish fleet in 877, when 120 of the marauders' ships were

driven on Peveril reef, and wrecked there. At the S.W. extremity of the town, near the pier, stands a Gothic clock-tower, transferred hither from the Surrey side of London Bridge, where it had been erected as a memorial to the Duke of Wellington, but removed for railway requirements. It was presented by Mowlem and Co. to Mr. Docwra, of the Grove, who re-erected it in his grounds.

The old town of Swanage consists chiefly of one long narrow street of grey stone-roofed houses, climbing the slope of the hill which forms the southern horn of the bay. It stands precisely over the outcrop of the upper Purbecks, which run out to sea eastward in a low headland and double reef known as **Peveril Point and Ledge**, shutting in Swanage Bay on the S. The bay sweeps in a noble curve $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. across, retiring about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. inland, under the low cliffs of the **Hastings sand**. Its northern horn is formed by the huge chalk headland of **Ballard Head**, soaring in perpendicular precipices from the sea, and reaching an elevation of 584 ft. at the highest point of the down above. The N.E. angle of the chalk promontory is called **Handfast Point**. At the extremity of the chalk are the insulated lofty fragments known as **Old Harry** (whose wife perished in a recent storm) and the **Pinnacle Rock**, and nearer Swanage a large cavern called the **Parson's Barn**. "As big as a parson's barn" is a Dorsetshire proverb.

The *Ch.* is a plain solid building of great antiquity, and little pretensions to beauty. The body was rebuilt in 1860, but the rude early tower remains. Near it a

tablet on a cottage commemorates a night passed beneath its roof by John Wesley, August 13th, 1787. Dr. Andrew Bell, the introducer of the "Bell system of education," was rector of Swanage 1801-16.

Numerous quarries of Purbeck marble are worked in the hill above the town. The stone is reached by a slanting pit about 120 ft. deep, which allows of the ingress of the quarryman by a flight of rude steps, and of the egress of the stone by a slide. Each quarry is generally worked by two men, who are employed either in excavating the stone, or in shaping it in the sheds. The Purbeck strata are estimated at a total thickness of 275 ft., of which the upper 55 are useful stone. The top vein of all, called *Purbeck marble*, is almost entirely composed of a small freshwater shell (*Paludina carinifera*) cemented by lime, and interstratified with the upper *Cypris* clays and shales. The marble, and the far more abundant building-stone, is carried for shipment to Swanage.

The geological explorer will find himself much assisted in the study of the Isle of Purbeck, for which purpose Swanage is the best starting-point, by Mr. Damon's "Geology of Weymouth and District."

Two farmhouses in the immediate neighbourhood present features of considerable interest, viz. **Godlingstone**, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N.W., which was formerly attached to a monastery, and **Whitecliff**, $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. N., said to have been once a residence of King John.

Newton Manor, formerly the seat of the Cochrams, belongs to

Sir J. C. Robinson, F.S.A., who has filled it with a large collection of works of art. The house contains some carved oak and stone chimney-pieces, and the dining-hall has an open timber roof.

Few places possess a more interesting neighbourhood than Swanage. In the vicinity of the town are *Durlston Head*, *Tilly Whim*, the *Dancing Ledge*, and numerous caverns, and at distances suitable for excursions *Studland*, 3 m., and the *Agglestone*; *Corfe Castle*, 6 m., and *Creech Barrow*; *St. Aldhelm's Head*, 6 m.; *Gad Cliff* and *Worbarrow Bay*, 12 m.; *Lulworth Castle*, 13 m., and *Lulworth Cove*, 15 m.

EXCURSIONS.

(a) To **Studland**.

3 m. N. of Swanage, on the other side of the high chalk down, is the pretty little village of **Studland**, embowered among lofty elms, reached by a charming walk over Ballard Down. The plastic clay and other tertiaries of the Bagshot series crop out here in rough slopes covered with profuse vegetation. The climate is so mild that myrtles and other tender shrubs and plants brave the winters, and attain a large size. The sea has eaten out a pretty little bay in the friable strata, bounded by low red cliffs, which terminate S. in the bastion-like promontory called the *Nodes*, the northern angle of Handfast Point. The village communicates with the shore by a picturesque little

chine, excavated by a small stream that trickles through it. Studland Church is a very interesting example of a small Norm. parish church, without additions or alterations of any moment, and very carefully restored. It consists of a nave, chancel, and a tower between the two (as at Iffley, Tickencote, etc.). The tower has been strengthened by buttresses, which add to its picturesque effect. It now has a pack-saddle roof, but it is evident that it has been shortened, and that the present covering is not original. The nave preserves on both sides its corbel table of grotesque heads and figures. Some of the windows have been enlarged, and the E. window is a plain one of three lights, but the side windows of the chancel and the N. windows of the nave are the original slits. The S. door is Norm. and shafted. The tower is supported on boldly moulded arches with curiously carved capitals, and both it and the chancel are groined. Some of the capitals under the tower, with deeply incised stars and graceful leaves at the angles, deserve notice. The chancel has a chamber above the groining, as at Tickencote and Darenth (see Handbooks for Rutland and for Kent). The font is large and cup-shaped, perfectly plain, coeval with the church. In the churchyard are some fine cypresses and some ancient yews. There was anciently a castle here. King John landed in Studland Bay in 1205, having given up an intended expedition to France, and again in 1213.

1 m. N.W. of Studland, and

about the same distance from the nearest point of the shore on the rough moor, is

The **Agglestone** (from *halig*-stan, Saxon for holy stone), or *Devil's Nightcap*, as it is sometimes called. It is an isolated block of ferruginous sandstone, in the form of an inverted cone, perched on the summit of a hillock, elevated more than 70 ft. above the surrounding heath, where the moor dips to the low ground which borders Poole harbour. It is a most singular object as it stands out against the sky, and tradition, as usual, attributes it to satanic agency. It measures $16\frac{1}{2}$ ft. in height, and 36 ft. by $16\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter, and is computed to weigh about 400 tons. On the upper surface are three cavities, which may be artificially formed basins; but, whatever use it may have been put to, there is no doubt that it is the work of nature, and rests in its original position, the earth which once surrounded it having been removed, partly by the action of the weather, partly perhaps by design. The moor is a good botanizing-ground, where may be found the large blue gentian, *Gentiana pneumonanthe*, the bog asphodel, cotton-grass, bog pimpernel, and the sun-dews. On the cliff near the Preventive Station grows the rare grass *Cynodon dactylon*.

(b) To **Corfe** and **Wareham** (see p. 492).

(c) To the **Heaths** near **Wareham** (see p. 510).

(d) Walk to **Lulworth Cove**.

From Swanage to Lulworth

Cove is a delightful walk of 16 m. by *Tilly Whim*, *Seacombe*, *St. Aldhelm's Head*, *Encombe* (three hours, and one hour besides for seeing the *chapel* at the Head); from Encombe Bay, a long terrace above *Kimmeridge*, crossing the valley, which runs from sea to sea between Swanage and Worbarrow, by *Tyneham* up to *Flowers Barrow* (two hours); thence by *Arish Mell* up *Bindon Hill* to *Lulworth Cove* ($1\frac{1}{4}$ hours), where is a neat little hotel, at which good refreshments can be procured, and a vehicle hired to take you to Wool Stat., 6 m., or, during the summer, the steamer may on certain days be caught to take you to Weymouth.

Leaving Swanage, a road leads up the hill across *Sentry Field* to Peveril Point, with its ledge of synclinal rocks forming a double reef, along the edge of the cliffs of *Durlston Bay*, where nearly all the Purbeck beds appear successively rising up southwards from the beach to the middle of the bay, with the stone-pits on our rt., to

1 m. **Durlston Head**, a lofty down descending to a cliff of Portland oolite. If the tide permits it, you should descend to the shore and examine an arched band of rock to the rt., and the parallel beds of limestone curved and contracted like the bark of old trees. The tide hurries round the point with rapidity. A gorge between Durlston Height and Round Down leads to

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Tilly Whim**, a cliff quarry, said to derive its name from the

person by whom it was opened and worked, in defiance of the advice of experienced quarrymen, who warned him of the increasing hardness of the stone. The scene is romantic. A hollow, descending from the hills, conducts the stranger to a terrace, hewn midway on the cliff, about 30 ft. above the sea. Opening to this terrace are capacious chambers, remarkable for their flat and solid roofs, and entered by square apertures, reminding one of Egyptian or cyclopean architecture. The black cliffs, grandly divided into enormous cubes, are of Portland oolite capped by Purbeck limestone. At some distance from this spot, we pass two smaller cliff quarries now at work. Immediately W. of the furthest is

2 m. the **Dancing Ledge Quarry**, which "may be considered as one of the best types of the Purbeck Portland quarries" (*P. Brannon*), containing fine specimens of ammonites from 18 in. to 30 in. in diameter, and of the *Ostrea gigantea*. The quarry takes its name from the *Dancing Ledge*, a beach of solid stone, descending at a gentle inclination to the sea, which here breaks with a lively motion, *dancing* up the ledge. It is the floor of a quarry, about 150 ft. in length by 50 in breadth, abutting on a cliff which has been worked back in the form of an amphitheatre. E. and W. rises a magnificent coast—huge piles of stone, which re-echo with the thunder of the waves.

W. of the Dancing Ledge are busy quarries, with cranes perched on the cliff for lifting the stone

into the vessels. After rounding a hill spur, we descend into **Seacombe**, where a fertile green valley winds among the hills towards the village of **Worth Matravers**, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Swanage, the *Ch.* of which, restored by the Earl of Eldon, is of considerable interest. The nave and tower and S. doorway, with almost entirely effaced carving in its tympanum, and chancel arch, above which are two round-headed openings, are enriched Norm., the chancel E.E. There is a very remarkable external hagioscope in the shape of an oblique passage through the wall to a Norm. window on the S. of the chancel. The stone heads under the corbel table should be noted, also a trefoil-headed piscina with an empty cinque-foil-headed niche above it. In the churchyard is the tomb of Benjamin Jesty, of Downshay, the first known practiser of vaccination, "who, from his strength of mind, made the experiment from the cow on his wife and two sons in 1774." A picture of this pioneer of a beneficent discovery is in the vestry. **Downshay**, a small 17th-century house of the Dolings, is a rather picturesque building a little further inland. A little W. of Seacombe, towards Winspit, occurred the melancholy wreck of the *Halsewell*, East Indiaman, bound for Bengal, January 6th, 1786, with the loss of 168 souls, 82 being saved by the exertions of the neighbouring quarrymen. The graves of some of the drowned may still be seen on the little patch of flat ground where the cliffs divide. Rounding the boldly advancing hill of **Eastman**, we reach **Winspit**

Quarry, situated on the E. face of St. Aldhelm's Head, consisting of a terrace and numerous subterranean chambers. Above it the path rises rapidly to the cape, and commands a fine view of the coast and sloping downs which have been traversed from Swanage. Looking back eastwards, the lofty arch of **Connaught's Hole** will be observed E. of the Dancing Ledge.

3 m. **St. Aldhelm's Head** (often incorrectly called St. Alban's Head), was so named after the first bishop of Sherborne. This promontory is 440 ft. in height, and is crowned by an ancient chapel or chantry, in which prayers were said for the safety of mariners passing this dangerous shore, while the roof carried a beacon-light. It is a small square stone building, the vaulted roof supported by a central pillar from which spring four intersecting semicircular arches. The entrance is a Norm. doorway, and the window a slit in the wall. Since its restoration by the Earl of Eldon, by whom a Norm. font was presented, evening service is celebrated here during the summer. On the face of the promontory are exhibited in section the *Portland limestone*, the *Portland sand*, and the *Kimmeridge clay*, the first forming the precipice, the second the long slope, and the third the base, which is, however, concealed beneath the débris of the cliff. The view is superb, the eye ranging down a coast unsurpassed for variety. The colossal profile of Gad Cliff will tempt every visitor to prolong his ramble.

W. of this headland the coast,

passing from the limestone to the sand and clay, assumes a new character. It dives at once to a deep valley, and then rises in **Emmit Hill** to a height of 250 ft., forming a range of ivy-mantled ragged precipices. Long dark slopes, covered with fragments of fallen stone, descend from these walls to the sea, with intervening channels of trickling streams, for ever busy in the work of destruction. The path winds along the undercliff to a very pretty little bay called **Chapman's Pool**, from which rises a towering height of Portland sand, with alternate layers of sand and stone, the Kimmeridge clay appearing below, containing beds of bituminous shale.

The undercliff ceases at the W. end of **Egmont Bight**, where the drainage of the valley of **Encombe** reaches the sea at **Freshwater**, in a small cascade; and a flight of steps leads from the private grounds of **Encombe**, the seat of the Earl of Eldon, to the beach. Near this spot the West India mail packet *Tyne* was stranded on her homeward voyage, January 13th, 1857. No lives were lost, and ultimately the vessel was got safely off. The house, long and low, and of no architectural beauty, is situated about half-way up the green valley, which from its fertility is commonly known as "The Golden Bowl." The planting has been judicious, and produces a good effect in spite of the strong S.W. winds. Two pieces of water form very pretty objects from the house and grounds. An obelisk which forms a conspicuous object in the view was erected by Lord Chancellor Eldon to his hardly less distin-

guished brother, Lord Stowell. Encombe, held at one time by the abbey of Shaftesbury, came in the reign of Edward VI. to the Cullifords, from whom it passed, 1734, to Mr. John Pitt, who built the house, and whose son sold it, 1807, to Lord Chancellor Eldon. The place is full of memories of the great statesman.

"*Encombe*," writes Lord Campbell, "became a very dreary abode to Lord Eldon in the latter years of his life. His sporting days were over; he had but little interest in gardening or farming; and his only reading, besides the newspaper, was a chapter in the Bible. His mornings he spent in an elbow-chair by the fireside in his study, called his *shop*, which was ornamented with portraits of his deceased master, George III., and his living companion, Pincher, a poodle dog."

Almost on the summit of the high ridge, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N., is the little village of **Kingston**, with a very conspicuous *Ch.* of very unusual sumptuousness, erected at the sole cost of the present Lord Eldon, from the designs of Mr. Street, 1880. It is a cruciform structure in the E.E. style, with a lofty central tower and apsidal chancel, and a western narthex. The clustered pillars of the nave, the piers of the crossing, and all the string - courses and corbels throughout the building, are of polished Purbeck marble from Lord Eldon's own quarries. The transepts and chancel are vaulted in stone. All the windows are filled with stained glass by Messrs. Clayton and Bell. The stalls, iron screens, and every part of the furniture were designed by

the architect, and executed in the best manner possible. To the S.W. is the parsonage, a building of much architectural character. The former church, which still stands, was built in very meagre Perp. by Lord Chancellor Eldon, from the designs of his son-in-law, Mr. Repton. Here he was buried, January 26th, 1838, in the vault he had constructed for his beloved "Bessy." The church contains a monument to him, with a likeness by Chantrey, and others to Lady Eldon, their two sons, and their grandson, the second Lord Eldon. A little to the N.E. of Kingston, at **Scowles**, now a dairy-house of East Lynch farm, are some interesting remains of a 13th-century residence.

The next valley to Encombe is that of **Kimmeridge**. In a retired nook, overhung with trees, stands **Smedmore** (H. B. Piercy, Esq.), formerly the seat of the Clavells, and now of their descendant, Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Mansel. Part of the house is old, and was perhaps built by Sir W. Clavell (d. 1643). The remains of an old house at *Little Kimmeridge* have been destroyed.

Between Encombe and Gad Cliff the hills receding form an amphitheatre, enclosing the vale of Kimmeridge, which gives name to the *Kimmeridge clay* series. Its dark blue beds are seamed by limestone, some strata of which abound in bituminous shale, quarried under the name of *Kimmeridge coal*. It is a combination of bitumen with clay, and burns with a bright flame, emitting considerable heat, but also a disagreeable sulphurous smell. The products of its distillation are a

volatile mineral oil, grease, asphaltum, etc. More than one company has been formed to utilize this formation, but without any satisfactory commercial results. Here also are found, about a foot below the surface of the soil, particularly in the neighbourhood of Smedmore, and elsewhere in the Isle of Purbeck, small discs of shale known as *Kimmeridge coal-money*. This name has been given under the popular idea that they were the coins or amulets of the old inhabitants, but they have been satisfactorily proved to be merely refuse pieces thrown aside from the lathe by the fabricators of beads, bracelets, and other ornaments for the Roman population. In 1839 bracelets made of this coal, and evidently turned, were discovered in a Romano-British burial-place at Dorchester; and similar ornaments have been frequently discovered elsewhere. The female skeletons found in the cemetery at Jordan Hill, near Weymouth, frequently wore armlets of *Kimmeridge* jet. Many specimens of objects made in this substance may be seen in the Dorchester Museum.

At the eastern turn of the bay rises the bold bluff of **Hen Cliff**, surmounted by a look-out tower. E. of the coastguard houses are the terraces where the coal is extracted, with a small pier for its shipment, and $\frac{3}{4}$ m. inland the village of **Kimmeridge**, with its little *Ch.*, the Norm. door and bell-gable of which deserve notice. The windows and roof are modern. From the low point of this bay the land rapidly rises to the bold hill known as **Tyne-**

ham Cap, above the ledges of **Broad Bench**.

2 m. **Gad Cliff**, the thin edge of a steep hill, cut vertically at a height of above 500 ft., with jagged precipices, overhanging a tangled undercliff, and the débris of the rocks, among which lies a noble specimen of a fossil tree of the order *Cycadeæ*. From this the path rapidly descends to

1 m. **Worbarrow Bay**, a scene of surpassing beauty, and unique in many respects. The sea has here broken through the whole series of Purbeck strata to the flinty chalk, here nearly vertical, thus exposing on each side of the bay similar sections of all the strata. It is 1 m. in width, and compassed by cliffs, which exhibit a number of striking contrasts in their colour, height, and structure. Where the chalk hills have been thus worn into, the cliffs are very high, in two points reaching an elevation of 500 ft. The oolitic strata form high rocks at the entrance of the bay, very highly inclined, and bent and broken in the most fantastic manner. The various strata of the Isle of Purbeck, spread at Swanage over a distance of more than 2 m., converge as they run westward, and are here so compressed that they all appear in the small compass of **Worbarrow Tout**, the bluff promontory at the E. point formed of Portland and Purbeck limestone, darkly coloured and contorted; adjoining it are the yellow sands of the wealden, forming low cliffs, which terminate the long valley of Swanage. Immediately below the Tout, E., is the picturesque little inlet of **Pond-field Cove**.

The most striking feature of this beautiful bay is the gigantic chalk bluff known as **Rings Hill**, on which is the camp known as **Flower's Barrow**, the W. termination of the ridge of downs that insulates South Purbeck, up-rearing its cliffs of pearly whiteness, vertically lined with black layers of flint, to a height of 500 ft. The summit commands a most enchanting view of the coast from Portland to St. Aldhelm's Head. It is crowned by an ancient earthwork, containing five or six acres, formed by three ramparts and ditches, partly destroyed by the falling of the cliff. Its name was absurdly derived by Hutchins from a supposed Roman officer named Florus; but the camp is Celtic. To the E. of Flower's Barrow is the part of the bay known as **Tyneham Cove**, where the long valley of Purbeck comes down to the sea. It takes its name from the pretty little village of **West Tyneham**, standing a little inland and commanding an unsurpassed prospect of the sea between the heights of Flower's Barrow and Worbarrow Tout. **Tyneham House** (Rev. John Bond) is a fine old mansion built by H. Williams, 1567-82, but disfigured by modern alterations. The *Ch.*, nearly rebuilt by the late Rev. W. Bond, contains a curious monument, painted and gilt, to John Williams (d. 1589). To the W. of Flower's Barrow the ground suddenly dips down to Hawcombe Bottom, and as suddenly rises again in the chalk headland of *Culver*, 200 ft. high, advancing into the middle of the bay, the base of which is worn by the waves into deep caverns, with dark mouths. Be-

yond this is another great break in the chalk ridge known as **Arish Mell Gap**, up which the rich woods and grey towers of *Lulworth Castle* and *Lulworth Ch.* form a picture not soon to be forgotten. Bindon Hill succeeds, with its white chalk precipices, followed by low cliffs of Wealden sand. The western horn of the bay, like the eastern, is formed of a contorted mass of Portland oolite. Huge wave-worn fragments of the wall of stone which once connected the two extremities of the bay and protected the softer strata within form a chain of insulated rocks, gradually lessening as they approach the centre of the bay. These are known as the **Mupe Rocks**, and from them the western half of the inlet is often called **Mupe Bay**.

1½ m. inland of Arish Mell Gap stands **Lulworth Castle**, the property of Reginald J. Weld, Esq. (3½ m. S. of Wool Stat., but less by pleasant footpaths), a feudal-looking pile, situated in a park 5 m. in circumference, and in a most secluded locality. E. of it, for 10 m., extends a heath only terminated by the sea, and S. a naked range of chalk downs, abutting on one of the most unfrequented but romantic coasts in the kingdom.

There was a castle at West Lulworth in early times, which was taken in 1142 by the Earl of Gloucester and occupied for the Empress Maud. East Lulworth belonged to the ancient family of Newburgh, and descended by marriage to Thomas Howard, third son of the third duke of Norfolk, created Viscount Howard of Bindon, and thence to his kinsman the

Earl of Suffolk, the builder of Audley End, and thence by sale to the Welds, 1641. The present castle was begun by Thomas, Lord Bindon, c. 1600, and completed by Humphrey Weld fifty years later. It was garrisoned in the civil wars for Charles I., but in 1644 was occupied by the Parliamentary soldiers, who committed sad havoc on the lead and metal work.

Lulworth has on several occasions been honoured by the presence of royalty. It was visited by James I. in 1615, when the plague raged in London; by Charles II., 1665; and by George III. and the whole royal family, who came here by sea from Weymouth, August 3rd, 1789. In 1830 it afforded an asylum to Charles X. and his family when driven from his throne.

It was constructed chiefly from the ruins of Bindon Abbey. In form an exact cube, it is flanked at each corner by a lofty round tower, and ornamented on its principal front, which is of Chilmark stone, by the arms of the Weld family, and by statues of Music and Painting, and of two Roman worthies. The interior contains some family portraits by *Lely*, and others in pencil by *Hussey* (d. 1788), an amateur artist who drew the human head by the musical scale, and was a native of Marnhull, in this county (Rte. 20). Among those in oil is one of Sir John Weld, who raised a troop for Charles I.; in the hall is an eagle shot in the park. At Lulworth is preserved the famous "Lutterell Psalter," executed for Sir Geoffrey Louterell, temp. Edward III., so remarkable for the illustration of domestic manners and customs afforded by the illuminations. St. Mary's Catholic

Church was built for Thomas Weld in 1792 by Italian workmen, brought specially from Rome for the purpose. In 1794 some refugee French monks of the Trappist order were sheltered by Mr. Weld, and founded a monastery, dedicated to St. Susan, at the foot of Flower's Barrow, where they remained till 1817, when they returned to France.

The woods are extensive. The *lake* lies 1 m. N., adjoining the great heath which stretches towards Wareham. It is a pleasant solitude. A walk runs around it, and it possesses a mimic fort and harbour. The *Ch.* of East Lulworth was rebuilt 1864, with the exception of the tower, the belfry story of which is curious, and the Weld monuments have been removed to the vaults beneath the chapel. It, however, retains some memorials of the family, including that of Sir John Weld, 1674, in which is set forth a genealogy, tracing his descent from Edrike the *Wild*, a nephew of the Duke of Mercia, the son-in-law of King Ethelred.

Returning to the coast, the walk to *West Lulworth* lies along the continuation of the chalk ridge known as the *Swinesback*, or **Bindon Hill**, presenting a rugged face of oolitic precipices to the sea, called the **South Rocks**, where a bed of fossilized cycadaceous trees, similar to those to be seen in Portland, will arrest the attention of the geologist. On the hill above Lulworth Cove, E., is **Little Bindon Abbey**, a small desecrated E.E. chapel, marking the original site of the monastery near Wool (p. 513). From this point we rapidly descend to

4 m. ★ **Lulworth Cove**, one of the most romantic inlets on the coast. It is a little circular basin eaten out by the sea in the soft strata of the Hastings sands, encircled by towering cliffs, and entered by a narrow opening between two bluffs of Portland stone, the remnants of the solid barrier which once shut it in, but has fallen before the incessant action of the watery hammers. It exhibits a section of all the beds between the chalk and oolite, and owes its peculiar form to the unequal resistance of these strata to the action of the sea. The perpetually moving water, having once pierced the cliff of stone, soon worked its way deeply into the softer sand and chalk. On the W. of the cove is a rock with remarkably contorted strata, figured in Damon's "Geology of Weymouth."

West Lulworth, situated in a retired valley under Bindon Hill, has a modern *Ch.*, built 1870, a mile from the sea.

Starting for a ramble W. of **Nelson Fort**, the coastguard signal-station at the entrance of Lulworth Cove, we soon reach

Stair Hole, an oblong chasm walled off by a rock of Portland limestone from the sea, which flows into it at high water through chinks and caverns. It strikingly shows the manner in which the neighbouring coves have been formed, the waves here leaping through the breached barrier of limestone to attack the sand and chalk. It is a wild and interesting spot, with its huge ribs of contorted stone. Beyond it is **Dungy Head**, alive with rabbits,

and then **Oswald**, or **Horsewall Bay**, with beach of shingle, and the magnificent chalk escarpment of **Harnbury Tout**. These are terminated W. by a low but most picturesque promontory formed by vertical and curved bands of limestone variously coloured, called **Tongue Beach**. Crossing the neck of this point, we find

Durdle Bay and the **Barn-door**, an archway 30 ft. high, piercing a wall of rosy rock, on whose ledges, says Gosse, nestle the guillemot, the auk, the puffin, the shag, and one or two kinds of gulls. **Swyre Head** rises from this bay to a height of 669 ft., its slopes of turf cresting a vertical chalk cliff, on each side of which they descend to within a few feet of the beach. At the W. end of the bay are **Bat's Corner**, tunnelled by a cavern, and a pinnacle of chalk, called the **Butter Rock**, standing detached among the waves. The next bay terminates with

Whitenore, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from West Lulworth, and the last chalk cliff on the S.W. coast of England, except Beer Head, between Lyme and Sidmouth. Immediately W. of it is an undercliff, and, in **Ringstead Bay**, low cliffs of *Kimmeridge clay*, which in 1824 spontaneously ignited and continued to smoulder for some years.

West Lulworth is 10 m. from Weymouth and 6 m. from the Wool Stat., 14 m. from Weymouth and 13 m. from Dorchester by carriage road, but a pedestrian may do it in 10 m. A steamer runs from Weymouth to Lulworth once a week or oftener during the summer months.

ROUTE 18.

THE ISLE OF PORTLAND.

The ★ **Isle of Portland** (Pop. 9443, including 873 convicts) is reached from Weymouth by frequent steamers from the pier-head or by a branch of the G.W. Rly. $4\frac{3}{4}$ m. in length, with an intermediate stat. at *Rodwell*, in the outskirts of the town, where the rly. passes through a Romano-British cemetery, in which many urns and other interesting objects were discovered. There is also communication by road, crossing a long timber bridge on the site of a former ferry crossing the *East Fleet*.

Portland is connected with the mainland by the long narrow isthmus of the

* **Chesil Bank.** This may be likened to a string stretched from Portland to the mainland at Abbotsbury, $10\frac{3}{4}$ m. distant, being separated from the land so far by a narrow channel called the *Fleet*. It is a compact ridge of shingle, in places mixed with sand, and slopes steeply on each side to the water, its extreme height at its S.E. end being 37 ft., and its width 200 yards at Portland and 170 at Abbotsbury. "The pebbles forming this immense barrier are chiefly siliceous, from the chalk hills to the W., all loosely thrown together. The fundamental rocks on which the shingle rests are found at the depth of a few yards only below the level of the sea. The formation of that part of the bar which

attaches Portland to the mainland may have been due to an original shoal or reef, or to the set of the tides in the narrow channel, by which the course of the pebbles which are always coming from the W. has been arrested."—*Lyell*. Another singular fact is the gradual increase of the size of the pebbles from W. to E. as we go farther from the quarter which supplied these, the bank commencing at Bridport with sand, and terminating at Portland with stones three or four inches in diameter. "The true explanation of this phenomenon is doubtless this: the tidal current runs strongest from W. to E., and its power is greater in the more open channel or farther from the land, the size of the masses being carried from the W. and thrown ashore being largest where the motion of the water is most violent."—*Lyell*. Throughout this distance of 17 m. the change is gradual but regular, so that smugglers, landing on the bank in thick weather or a dark night, could determine the exact spot without any difficulty. In heavy gales from the westward this long line of desolate beach is lashed by a frightful sea, the slope being abrupt, and the water deep. Shipwrecks are unfortunately too frequent, and upon such occasions it is a work of considerable danger to proceed to the assistance of the stranded vessel, the landward side being swept by heavy showers of shingle. The shipwrecked sailor has indeed but a poor chance of saving his life. Owing to the steepness of the bank, the broken water rolls back with resistless force, springing high into the air

as it meets the advancing wave; and the strength of the under-current alone will frustrate the efforts of the strongest swimmer. Such melancholy scenes have been repeatedly witnessed, and hence the bay has acquired its dismal name, *Deadman's Bay*. In 1588 two of the treasure galleons of the Spanish Armada went on shore here. Ingots of silver have been from time to time found embedded in the blue clay of the beach below the shingle after a storm. In the great storm of November, 1824, the bank was considerably lowered, shingle to the amount of many hundred tons having been thrown to the land side. On that occasion an ordnance sloop, laden with stores, was carried by a wave to the very top of the ridge, where the crew disembarked and walked into Portland. They afterwards launched her down the other side into the Fleet, and thus she is said to have gone round the peninsula by land. Many curious objects, such as Roman coins, ingots, antique rings and plate, have been at various times washed up by the ground swell which follows heavy gales from the S.W. A very full account of the Chesil Beach will be found in Damon's "Geology of Weymouth."

The **Isle of Portland** is a rocky peninsula, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, $1\frac{3}{4}$ m. in width, and 9 m. in circumference, projecting into the Channel in the shape of a tongue or beak, from which configuration its southern extremity is known as the **Bill of Portland**. The peninsula is one solid mass of oolitic limestone, and presents an

even surface, which slopes southward in a long inclined plane from a height of 495 ft. at the **Verne** to 30 ft. above the sea-level. The cliffs that form its sides, exposed to the fury of the waves, are extremely rugged.

Portland offers a peculiarly interesting field for geological research in its unique dirt-bed and fossil trees, and its alternations of marine and fresh-water deposits.

That Portland was an ancient British stronghold is proved by the double fosseway encircling the Verne Hill, which could clearly be traced before the construction of the new fortifications. It was subsequently occupied by the Romans, and has been identified with the Vindilis of the Itinerary, and the Vindilia of Richard of Cirencester. As the "Isle of Slingers," it forms the scene of a large part of the tale of "The Well-beloved." A Roman road led from Cheswell to the Verne, and at the Grove was a cemetery destroyed by the new fort, in which a large plain stone sarcophagus, preserved in the fort, was found, and some good specimens of Samian ware. There was also a Romano-British cemetery at Southwell, where fibulæ, coins, and pottery have been found.

Portland is asserted to have been the first place on which the Danes landed in this country in the reign of Beorhtric of Wessex, at the end of the 8th century, and in the year 1404 it was selected by the French for invasion, but their attempt proved unsuccessful. At the commencement of the Great Rebellion, Portland was seized by the Parliamentary forces, who garrisoned the island in 1643, and made it a dépôt for their plunder after the capture of Wardour Castle. This, however,

together with the island itself, soon fell into the hands of the Royalists, who captured the stronghold by a stratagem. A party of horsemen with the Parliamentary colours flying galloped towards the castle, crying out that they were pursued by the King's troops, who, with the Earl of Carnarvon, were by design close in their rear; the gates were opened to them, and, having thus gained an entrance, they speedily overpowered the garrison. The Portlanders were *baleares*, or slingers of stones in ancient times. They are a sturdy race, and long maintained themselves distinct from the people of the adjacent country, intermarrying, and handing down from father to son many curious customs; but they are now less exclusive, and their customs are in great measure discontinued.

The island is famous for its building-stone and for a breed of small black-faced sheep well known for their excellent flavour as Portland mutton. The island is all one parish, but it is divided into eight hamlets, viz., *Chesilton* and *Fortune's Well*, N., and *Castleton*, on the E. coast, which are tolerably built and form a striking contrast to the rest. In the centre of the isle is *Reforne*, with the parish church of St. George, in the Wreanean style (the other church is at Fortune's Well); *Easton*, *Wakeham*, and *Weston*—where is the *Avalanche Memorial Ch.* of St. Andrew, erected in 1879, to commemorate the captain, passengers, and crew of the *Avalanche* lost by collision with the *Forest* September 11th, 1877—stretch across the centre, and *Southwell* is near the S. extremity; all these are shapeless collections of stone

hovels, with here and there a chapel of the approved Zion or Bethesda type. The *prison* is on the E. coast, at a treeless place known as the *Grove*; *Pennsylvania Castle* is a mile lower down; on the same side, the pretty dell of *Church Hope* adjoins; *Cave Hole* is further S., and the *High* (W.) and *Low Lighthouses* (E.) are very near the S. extremity—the *Bill*. A walk along the W. coast gives a good view of the quarries, which are worked by free labour.

Portland Castle, a block-house, was built by Henry VIII., 1520, after his return from the "Field of the Cloth of Gold," to protect the coast against a surprise by the French. He granted it in succession to three of his queens—Jane Seymour, Katharine Howard, and Katharine Parr, and in 1588 it was garrisoned in expectation of a landing by the Spanish Armada. During the Rebellion it was several times besieged and taken by the contending parties, once in 1643 by stratagem, as already related, when the Royalists found in it the plunder of Wardour Castle. Colonel William Ashburnham was besieged here for four months till relieved by the Earl of Cleveland, 1644. The next year, August 23rd, it was attacked by the Parliamentary forces, and surrendered April 6th, 1646. In 1816 it was granted to the family of Manning, but on the death of the late Captain Charles Manning it reverted to the Crown.

The family pictures and other collections which formerly adorned the interior are now dispersed. On the wainscot of the *hall*, formerly the guard-room, is the following quaint inscription:

“God save Kinge Henri the VIII. of that name, and Prince Edward, begotten of Queene Jane, my ladi Mari, that godli virgin, and the ladi Elizabit so towardli, with the kinges honourable counselors.”

Chesilton, where is the *rly. stat.*, is the first village in Portland. Vehicles may be here obtained for a drive to the Breakwater, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, and round the island, a pleasant excursion of two or three hours. It straggles up the hill to meet

★ **Fortune's Well**, which occupies the higher ground, and derives its name from a spring which rises behind the inn, 200 ft. above the sea-level. A curious relic of antiquity exists here—the *Reeve Pole*, “a sort of wooden Domesday Book,” bearing a record of every estate in the island, and of which a silver model was presented to the Queen by the tenants of the royal manor, 1850. It is referred to as an authority in all questions of manorial dues. From this elevation there is a magnificent view of the Chesil Bank, which appears stretched out in long perspective westward, conducting the eye to the distant heights above Lyme, among which the truncated cone of Golden Cap is conspicuous. Above the village the stony hill attains a height of 490 ft., called the **Verne Hill**, the highest portion of which is occupied by a strong work, called **Fort Victoria**, which its designers intended should as nearly approach impregnability as ditches, walls, earthworks, and guns could make it. It is surrounded by

a dry ditch, for the formation of which upwards of 1,500,000 tons of stone had to be blasted. It is in some parts nearly 200 ft. wide, and displays the strata and faults in beautiful sections. Casemated barracks within will accommodate 3000 men, and the extent of the whole enclosure is fifty-six acres. Beneath the N.E. face of the fort is a line of works cut on the steep slope of the hill called the *East Weir Batteries*. Two proposed outworks further S., at *Easton* and *Weston*, to mount thirty or more guns a-piece, will strengthen the central fortress of the Verne. Steep roads lead from Fortune's Well to the

Quarries of Portland stone, among enormous heaps of rubbish, the ruins of the overlying useless beds. There are about 100 of these quarries scattered over the island. This famous stone was first brought into repute by Inigo Jones, who selected it for the banqueting hall at Whitehall, and from his time employed for most of our great public edifices. One bed of the building or *merchantable* stone, as it is called, extends throughout the island like a floor, at an average depth below the surface of 30 ft. The strata thus excavated are the upper series of the oolitic limestones, and vary in thickness from 7 to 16 ft. They are six in number, and are named in a descending order: *top-cap*, *skull-cap*, *roach* (a good stone), *top-bed* (the best of all), *middle* or *curf-bed*, and *bottom-bed*, the last being of inferior quality to the *top-bed*. They lie immediately below the Purbeck beds, one of

which, called the *dirt-bed*, contains the trunks of large trees of the fir tribe, now converted into stone, the roots being still fixed in the soil from which they derived their nourishment. In Fortune's Well there is a fine specimen of these silicified trees 20 ft. in height, placed against the wall of one of the cottages on the rt. as you ascend the hill. The quarries partly belong to the Crown, partly to private firms.

In the course of quarrying some remarkable underground dwellings, somewhat resembling the Dene-holes of Essex or the "Weems" of Scotland, were discovered in 1880. They were shaped like beehives, and about 8 ft. in height and 10 to 12 ft. wide at bottom. They were completely walled in with flat stones overlapping inwards until an opening, 16 in. in diameter and generally covered over with a large slab, was left at the crown. The soil over all was about 1 ft. in depth. In these were found various objects, such as corn-crushers, sling-stones, a celt, and some flint-flakes, with blackened wheat and many skulls and bones of domestic animals.

In a *walk or drive round the island* the visitor leaves Chesilton by the road along the E. coast, passing Portland Castle on the l. to

★ **Castletown**, where he will observe the *stone wharf*, from which the vessels engaged in the carrying trade ship their cargoes, and where a pier for the use of the Weymouth steamer has been recently erected. On rt. is the *tramroad*, descending in a straight line the abrupt hill from the

quarries. Down this come the loaded waggons by their own weight, their impetus being controlled by the empty cars attached to the other end of the chain, which passes over a huge drum at the top of the incline.

From Castletown the visitor should proceed to the **Portland Breakwater**, a national work, commenced in 1847. The site of Portland Harbour possessed natural advantages which had long been apparent. It was already protected by nature from westerly gales, and needed only a barrier towards the S.E. to render it on all sides secure. The roadstead was capacious, the depth of water ample, and the holding-ground tenacious; the position was intermediate between Portsmouth and Plymouth, and opposite to the French arsenal of Cherbourg, a desideratum in a warlike point of view. It had the advantage of an inner harbour at Weymouth and of a copious supply of spring water at Portland. Lastly, it was situated under heights covered by large quantities of stone already excavated and thrown aside as useless, but admirably adapted for the construction of a breakwater. The utility of such an undertaking appears to have been first urged upon the Government by a Mr. Harvey, of Weymouth, in the year 1794, with no result; he died in 1821, but Mr. John Harvey, his son, kept the matter before the public. In 1844 a Royal Commission was appointed "to inquire into the most eligible situation for constructing a harbour or harbours of refuge in the Channel," and reported in favour of Portland Bay. The

first vote for the work was granted by Parliament in the year 1846; an Act of Parliament was passed in 1847 giving powers to purchase the necessary land, etc., and the preliminary works were begun in August of that year. The works having been completed, his Royal Highness the late Prince Consort (to whose influence, it is said, is mainly owing the decision of the Government to carry out these works) performed the ceremony of depositing the first stone, weighing nearly nine tons, 25th July, 1849. Strictly speaking, there are two breakwaters: one connected with the shore, starting about half a mile S.E. of Portland Castle and running due E. for about 1800 ft., and the outer, or main, breakwater, which is about 6000 ft. long, is separated from the inner arm by an opening of 400 ft. wide, with a depth of about 45 ft. of water at the lowest tides.

The whole of the stone was obtained from the top of the island, at about a mile from the breakwater; the greater portion was quarried by convicts, who loaded the whole into waggons. These waggons were conveyed by locomotive engines to the top of the inclined planes, then attached to a strong wire rope wound round a drum fitted with powerful screw breaks, and by the force of gravity descended, pulling up the empty waggons from the bottom to be reloaded. Arrived at the bottom, the waggons, a locomotive engine being placed in the rear, were propelled along tramways, and having reached the proper point on the staging, the loads, consisting of several tons, were shot into the

sea. More than 5,600,000 tons of stone were put into the sea to form this great work, and about 1000 convicts were employed upon it. The portion connected with the shore is crowned by substantial masonry, with a wharf for coaling vessels of the navy. At the extreme end of this arm there is a circular tower, with a fort to carry nine guns. At the northern extremity of the great breakwater a circular fort has been constructed to carry some of the heaviest guns that have been made.

The total expenditure upon the breakwater works, coaling and watering establishment, jetties, etc., was about £1,010,000, an amount which will compare most favourably with the cost of any of our large harbours completed or in progress.

Portland is now the largest artificial harbour in the kingdom, if not in the world, with a sheltered anchorage of 2107 acres up to low-water line. A second breakwater is now being constructed at right angles to the first and on the E. of the harbour, it being the intention of the Government to make the Portland Roads a naval station of the first importance. The large wooden stages concerned in its erection, and known as "dolphins," are very prominent objects from Portland or Weymouth.

From the extent of quarrying, fossils have been found in abundance. Excellent collections may be seen at the engineer's office at the head of the breakwater, and also in the governor's office at the

Convict Prison. This has a

handsome frontage to the sea. The buildings are mostly of wood or iron, being of a strictly temporary character, and scattered over a large area, the whole being enclosed by a lofty stone wall, guarded at intervals by sentinels in uniform. It consists of six halls, with Protestant and Roman Catholic chapels within the boundary walls, while on the outside are quarters for the officers and a handsome *Ch.* (St. Peter's), with schools and residence attached, the whole having been erected by convict labour. It accommodates a governor, one deputy governor, two chaplains, four schoolmasters, and other officers. There are about 800 convicts, of whom a great number are employed in hewing and dressing the monster blocks of stone used in the various Government buildings and works, and many various trades. The establishment numbers about 1600, including warders and their families. The prisoners are treated with uniform kindness, and, while strict discipline is maintained, every effort is made to encourage industry and improvement. They rise at 5 a.m. for the greater part of the year, breakfast at 5.40, and after attending chapel proceed to labour at 7 o'clock. At 11.10 the bell rings to recall from labour, at 11.30 dinners are served out, and at 1 p.m. they again proceed to work, and remain at the same till 5 p.m., when they return to their cells for the night. From the entrance gate the visitor obtains a view over the southern part of the island, and sees before him the united villages of *Wakeham* and *Easton*. A walk of a few minutes will conduct us

to the most romantic spot in Portland, the

Cove of Church Hope, containing Pennsylvania Castle, and on a cliff overhanging the sea the ruinous old keep of Bow and Arrow Castle. A rugged road leads down to the beach, and about midway is a spring which supplies the inhabitants with water.

Pennsylvania Castle is a modern castellated mansion (J. M. Head, Esq., J.P.), charmingly placed in a rough dell here descending to the cove. It was built, at a cost of £20,000, from the designs of the too celebrated James Wyatt, c. 1800, by John Penn, governor of this island, and grandson of the founder of Pennsylvania. It is embowered among shrubberies, and contains a collection of Indian and Chinese antiquities and pictures of the Penn family. Below it are the ruins of the old parish church of the island, ruined by a landslip. From a seagirt crag rises

Bow and Arrow or Rufus Castle, a pentagonal tower of rude construction, commonly said to have been built by William Rufus, situated 300 ft. above the sea, and connected with the mainland by a bridge, the arch of which frames a beautiful view of the blue sea and lofty coast about Lulworth. In the year 1142 Robert, Earl of Gloucester, took possession of this castle for the Empress Matilda. On the other side of the cove the rocky ground has been broken by a landslip into the most romantic forms.

Continuing our course towards the S. end of the island, the slope

of the land brings us nearer and nearer to the level of the sea, the cliffs being hollowed into picturesque caverns. Over the thin roofs of these vaults we unconsciously walk until startled at one spot by a well-like aperture in the path. This is known by the name of

Cave Hole, where the waves may be seen chafing beneath our feet in the calmest weather, but in storms they burst upwards through the opening with a sound like thunder, and scatter the salt spray for many yards round. About a mile beyond it we reach the southern termination of the island, or

Portland Bill, a castellated mass of rocks. Around it is a busy quarry, and at some distance apart the two **lighthouses**, the lantern of one 130, and of the other 197, ft. above the level of the sea. In rough weather there is a wild waste of tumbling water off this point. The tide rushes with extraordinary impetuosity between the land and a bank called the **Shambles**, 3 m. S.E., raising a dangerous surf, which is well known to sailors as the **Race of Portland**.

From this promontory we can return along the western side of the island, an unenclosed sheep-walk, commanding a charming view of the Dorsetshire coast. The botanist may notice by the way *Euphorbia Portlandica* and *Lavatera arborea*, or tree-mallow, and the *Flos Adonis*, or pheasant's eye. Many bushels of the root of the arum used to be dug yearly, and after being reduced to powder sold as Portland arrowroot.

ROUTE 19.

WIMBORNE TO DORCHES-
TER BY CORFE MULLEN,
CHARBOROUGH, BERE
REGIS, TOLPUDDLE, PUD-
DLETOWN.

ROAD.	PLACES.
	Wimborne.
2 m.	Corfe Mullen.
3 m.	Bailey Corner.
6 m.	Charborough House.
6½ m.	Almer.
7 m.	Winterborne Zelstone.
8½ m.	Winterborne Tompson.
11 m.	Bere Regis.
14 m.	Tolpuddle.
16 m.	Burleston.
18 m.	Puddletown.
22 m.	Dorchester.

This road, projected and completed through the instrumentality of the late J. S. W. S. Erle-Drax, Esq., of Charborough Park, in 1841-2, affords a pleasant drive of 22 m. through a diversified country, with an old church and manor-house well worth visiting every few miles.

Leaving Wimborne, the road crosses the Stour, and traverses the green meadows watered by it, by the side of the Somerset and Dorset Rly., to

2 m. **Corfe Mullen**. The *Ch.* of St. Hubert is a low building of red stone with an E.E. chancel (*The Knoll*, H. J. Mills, Esq.; *Glendon*, Major-General C. P. Lane, D.L., J.P.), where a road strikes off l. to Poole. Passing *Upper* and *Lower Henbury* (*Henbury House*, formerly the seat of Earl of Strafford, now of St. John Coventry, Esq.) at

3 m. *Bailey Corner*, the road crosses the high-road from Poole to Blandford, and leaves $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. **Sturminster Marshall** (Rte. 20), and passes the long walls and lofty arched gateways, crowned with stags, lions, etc., of

6 m. **Charborough House** (Mrs. Ernle Erle-Drax), the ancient seat of the Erles, burnt in the Parliamentary wars, and rebuilt by Sir Walter Erle 1720, containing on the ceiling of the staircase a painting of the Judgment of Paris, by *Thornhill*, celebrated in a fulsome poem by Christopher Pitt (rector of Pimperne, Rte. 14). In the park is a tower, erected by Major Drax 1790, and rebuilt 1839 after being struck by lightning, a conspicuous object for miles around, the scene of the tale of "Two on a Tower," and a small building with an inscription recording that under its roof, in 1686, the plan of the Revolution was concerted. The Erles were a very ancient family, from whom were descended the late Rt. Hon. Sir W. Erle and his brothers.

Drax was an old Yorkshire family. Colonel Drax, an adherent of the King's party in the civil wars, retired to Barbados 1647, where he married the daughter of the Earl of Carlisle, the proprietor of the island, and amassed a large fortune. One of his descendants, Henry Drax, of Ellerton Abbey, Yorkshire, married the heiress of the Erles, and was made secretary to Frederick, Prince of Wales, 1744.

$6\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. is the little village of **Almer**, with a small old *Ch.* of little interest. Passing 7 m.

Rushmore, the tiny villages strung like beads on the stream of the Winterborne, from which they take their names—*Winterborne Zelston*, *Tompson*, *Ander-son*, and *Kingston*—will repay a slight detour.

7 m. **Winterborne Zelston**. The *Ch.*, rebuilt in a good style, retains its old square tower and some of its windows.

$8\frac{1}{2}$ m. **Winterborne Tompson** preserves some highly picturesque remains of the manor-house of the Husseys, with a spiral stone staircase and some good plaster ceilings in the upper rooms. The little *Ch.*, rebuilt by Abp. Wake, is quite unworthy of notice.

9 m. rt. at **Winterborne Ander-son** is the fine gabled mansion of the Tregonwells, ascribed on slight evidence to Inigo Jones (c. 1622). The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1889, and retains its little E.E. double bell-gable.

1 m. higher up the stream, through pretty meadows, is

Winterborne Kingston, a chapelry of Bere Regis, with a nice little flint *Ch.*, with N. aisle, good E.E. arcade, a low square tower, well restored by the late Mr. Street.

On the S.E. border of the high tableland above Winterborne Kingston are the remains of a British station, with tumuli and hut-circles. On the slope of the down close to this station is a remnant of the Icknield Street, where Roman and British remains have been discovered. A leaden coffin with a nearly perfect skeleton, with nail-studded *caligæ*, was found near the road to Bere a few years since.

2 mi. l. on high ground, at the verge of the picturesque *Bere Wood*, is **Bloxworth**, of which Abp. Morton was once rector, being attainted for high treason in 1461, as one of the adherents of Queen Margaret, as "John Morton, late person of Blokesworth." The small *Ch.*, chiefly rebuilt in the 16th century, incorporates relics of earlier work. In the S. wall are some E.E. windows and a round-headed doorway of the same style. An hour-glass stand is attached to the pulpit. There is a manorial pew decorated with the arms of the Savages. The chancel has been rebuilt and richly decorated as a memorial to the late Rev. G. Pickard-Cambridge, of *Bloxworth House*, a fine gabled house of the Savages, now of the Pickard-Cambridges, built 1608. The Rev. O. Pickard-Cambridge, F.R.S., the rector, is a celebrated entomologist, possessing one of the finest collections of Arachnidæ extant.

At 11 m. the road traverses the large village (once a royal residence and market town) of **Bere Regis**, on a hill-side above an affluent of the Puddle. To the N. the eye ranges over a wide expanse of bare chalk downs, studded with earthworks and barrows. To the S. is a wide tract of barren heath commanding very extensive and attractive views towards Poole, Corfe, the Isle of Purbeck, and Lulworth Cove. From *Blackhill*, crowned with a clump of firs surrounding a trenched barrow, there is a really beautiful prospect. A "menhir" or standing-stone may be seen to the l. of trackway

leading to Turner's Puddle. Bere Regis is a place of great antiquity. Bere is a corruption of *byrig*, A.-S. a "building"; *Regis* being subsequently aded to mark it as a royal demesne. Queen Ælfrith had a mansion here, to which she retired after the murder of her stepson at Corfe Castle. In later times the royal dwelling was occupied by the ubiquitous John. In a field to the E. of the church are the small remains of the manor-house, on the site of the royal residence. By Henry VIII. the lordship of Bere was granted to the Turbervilles, who had possessed a moiety of it from the time of the Conquest. In common with many of the thatched Dorsetshire villages, Bere has been repeatedly ravaged by fire, especially in 1788, when the vicarage and more than 40 houses were consumed. It is the "Kingsbere" of "Tess of the D'Urbervilles," the monuments alluded to in the novel being those of the Turbervilles (*vide infra*).

* **Bere Church** is a fine architectural study from the variety of styles. It has been admirably restored by Street, all the windows being filled with excellently designed stained glass, forming a "Biblia Pauperum," by Hardman, well deserving examination. It is wholly Perp. externally, built of flint and stone, with a stately pinnaced tower (temp. Henry VII.) with canopied niches. Within we find earlier styles. The S. arcade is Early Trans.-Norm.; its capitals deserve notice. That to the N. is somewhat later in the style. The timber *roof is traditionally said to

have been the gift of Cardinal Morton, who was born at Milborne Stileman, in this parish, and whose family had a chantry chapel at the E. end of the N. aisle. It is a gorgeous and remarkable piece of work, containing a number of half life-size effigies in the costume of the period, representing the twelve apostles, forming the heads of the braces of the spandrils, also some huge bosses. The whole has been carefully restored and recoloured, and is worthy of the most careful study. The chancel has an E.E. piscina. The font is Norm., with intersecting arcades on the bowl. There are two good examples of canopied tombs of the Turberville family in their chapel in the S. aisle, the window of which is filled with glass representing the armorial bearings of the family. Among the vicars were Thomas Bastard, the satirist and epigrammatist (d. 1618), and the Rev. H. Fisher, commemorated on a tiny brass plate, as on the buildings erected from his benefaction at Balliol College, Oxford, by the brief motto, "Verbum non amplius. Fisher." There is some excellent wood carving in the pews, both ancient and modern; of the former, one is dated 1547, and another is inscribed IOH DAY, WARDEN OF THYS CHARYS.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.E. on the extreme point of a high ridge rises **Woodbury Hill**, a circular entrenchment, containing ten acres, formed by three ramparts and ditches. On the W. side are the foundations of a chapel and a spring called the "Anchorite Well." It is annually the scene of *Woodbury*

Fair, formerly one of the most famous of the south country fairs, rivalling that of Weyhill (Rte. 3), where the tolls alone brought in £100 a day to the lord of the manor, but now of no great importance. It begins September 18th, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, and formerly lasted a whole week. This fair is introduced, under the title of "Greenhill Fair," into "Far from the Madding Crowd." To the E. of this hill is the pretty woodland tract of low oaks known as **Bere Wood**, through which are charming walks to Bloxworth.

$1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. a pleasant walk over Black Hill and by deep lanes is **Turner's** (properly, from its ancient owners, Toner's) **Puddle**, a tiny hamlet, with an old grey farmhouse and little *Ch.* (partly rebuilt 1759) embowered in trees, on the N. bank of the most uneuphoniously named *Puddle* or *Piddle*, from which unhappily the string of villages along its banks take their names. There is a fine Norm. font with interlacing work, and some good panelled bench-ends.

12 m., a little off the high-road to the l. (reached by a pleasant walk up the stream from Turner's Puddle), is **Affpuddle**, a church and manor once belonging to Cerne Abbey. The *Ch.*, grouping picturesquely with the old mill among the trees on the S. bank of the little river, is an interesting small structure, with an E.E. chancel, almost wholly remodelled in the Perp. period, to which the very fine tower belongs. Remark the beautiful E.E. S. door, with curious trefoil head,

dating from 1220, and the curious carved pulpit, bearing the evangelistic symbols and the pelican and figures in mediæval costumes (which may represent the Evangelists strangely travestied and St. John the Baptist), "mayd" in 1547 by Thomas Lylyngton, a monk of Cerne, who, being "honest and conformable," became vicar at the dissolution. The beautifully carved benches are also his work, and one in the N. aisle bears the inscription: "Thes seatys were mayd in the yere of oure Lord God MCCCCXLVIII., the tyme of Thomas Lylyngton, vicar of thys cherch." The whole partake of the Renaissance character. The font is Norm., on a modern base. The views from the hills are delightful. **Affpuddle Heath**, S., is covered with multitudes of conical hollows. They were supposed by Mr. Prestwich to have been formed naturally by the loose superincumbent stratum being washed by the rains into the sand-pipes in the chalk below. Others are of opinion that, like the similar hollows at Pen Pits, they are the sites of the huts of a British village. But the great size of some of these pits contradicts this hypothesis. One known as **Culpepper's Dish**, clearly a natural formation, by the side of the Dorchester road, on the heath between Bryan's Puddle and Moreton, is 290 yards in circumference and 47 yards deep, and a second on the other side of the wood, called his **Spoon**, is nearly as large.

14 m. **Tolpuddle** takes its distinctive appellation from Thola, wife of Orc, one of Cnut's

"house-carls," the co-foundress of the monastery of Abbotsbury, on which she bestowed this manor (Rte. 13). The *Ch.*, restored 1855 by Wyatt, with a new chancel, contains traces of several styles.

16 m. **Burleston**, united parochially with **Athelhampton** (pronounced Admiston), at which there is a new *Ch.* L., ***Athelhampton Hall**, the seat of Alfred de Lafontaine, Esq., is one of the most perfect examples of domestic architecture in the county, somewhat altered and a new wing added by the Martins in the reign of Henry VII.

The forecourt, beautiful gatehouse, and chapel were unfortunately pulled down some years ago by the former owner.

The chief feature of the house is the noble banqueting-hall, with a grand trefoiled oaken roof and beautiful oriel. The original 15th-century doors and wooden bolts deserve notice, also many interesting specimens of old painted glass in the windows.

The **library**, with its handsome panelling and rich plaster ceiling, is one of the most beautiful rooms in the mansion. Access to this apartment is obtained by the "King's Way," a most curious spiral staircase formed of solid blocks of oak let into the stonework.

Each apartment, with its old furniture and many curios, would delight the antiquarian and the lover of the beautiful.

The walled and terraced gardens, laid out by the owner, are of their kind unique.

18 m. **Puddletown**, the "Wea-

therbury" of "Far from the Madding Crowd," a large, well-built, and well-kept village, where the road falls into that from Blandford to Dorchester (Rte. 13), on the river Puddle. The *Ch.* deserves a visit, as it contains many objects of interest; it consists of a very broad nave with N. aisle and S. transeptal chapel opening by a panelled arch, containing a series of fine recumbent cross-legged effigies, unfortunately much mutilated, and other monuments of the Martin family of Athelhampton, to whom also there are some brasses. The nave has a very fine panelled ceiling of the 15th century. The tower is Trans.-Norm. patched in Perp. The Norm. *font is of a very unusual shape, like a drinking-tumbler, covered with trellis-work enclosing vine-leaves. There is a 17th-century gallery across the W. end. Among the vicars were Dr. Woodroffe, 1673, the second founder of Worcester College, Oxford, and the once notorious Theophilus Lindsay, afterwards minister of the Unitarian chapel in Essex Street, Strand.

Islington House, near the church, is the residence of W. E. Brymer, Esq., M.P., the lord of the manor.

1½ m. W. of the church is the very interesting manor-house of **Wasterston**, carefully restored by the Earl of Ilchester after a fire in 1863. The date 1586 is on the garden front, a beautiful piece of Renaissance work added to an earlier building.

18¾ m. **Troy Town**, a hamlet called from a *maze* or *labyrinth*,

corresponding to that already described at Pimperne.

19½ m. the road crosses **Yellowham Hill**, a picturesque eminence covered with firs and other trees, with deep ferny glades, and, passing the beautiful sloping lawns and fine trees of **Kingston Park**, we reach **Stinsford** (see p. 530), where are some remains of the ancient residence of the Staffords, and by fine avenues of elm and sycamore we enter

22 m. Dorchester (Rte. 14).

ROUTE 20.

WIMBORNE TO STALBRIDGE BY BLANDFORD AND STUR- MINSTER NEWTON.

(*Somerset and Dorset Joint Rly.*)

RAIL.	PLACES.
	Wimborne.
5 m.	Bailey Gate.
8 m.	Spetisbury.
11½ m.	Blandford.
16¾ m.	Shillingstone.
19¾ m.	Sturminster Newton.
23¼ m.	Stalbridge.

This very pretty and attractive route ascends the valley of the Stour and its tributary, the Cale, to the watershed near Wincanton, then passing Glastonbury, enters the valley of the Brue, and traversing the wide expanse of peat bogs which stretch between that place and the British Channel, joins the G.W. at Highbridge, and runs on in a branch line to the coast at the little watering-place of *Burnham* ("Handbook for Somerset").

Leaving Wimborne, the rly. runs across the green meadows watered by the Stour, passing l. Merly House, and at $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. Corfe Mullen, strikes N.W. to

5 m. **Bailey Gate**, the station for **Sturminster Marshall**, so called from its former possessors, the Pembrokes, Earls Marshal of England. The *Ch.* (restored) has a good low square tower (rebuilt), pinnacles at angles. The square-headed windows in the south wall, with complex Dec. tracery, and the beautifully designed E. window deserve notice. The interior has a lofty open screen, and stalled chancel. It contains a brass to Henry Helme, a former vicar (d. 1581). There are also two good modern brasses and a fine marble slab in the N. aisle to Lady Elizabeth, wife of John, Lord Arundel of Nevice. Two coffin-slabs with sculptured crosses, 15th century, are in the porch. The church was a "Peculiar," granted to Eton College by Henry VI. The seal of the Peculiar, dated 1688, is fixed into the N. side of one of the chancel pillars. The earliest vicar was Peter de Meulan or Mellent, ob. 1203. The vicarage, called Baillie House, which gives its name to the station, was originally built by Henry Helme. There is a tradition that one of the bells came from the chapel at Knolton, and that the shoes of the horses that brought it to Sturminster were reversed that the track might not be followed in the snow. The following doggerel is current:—

"Knolton bell is stole
And thrown into White Mill hole."

In the churchyard is the base

[*Wilts and Dorset.*]

and much of the shaft of a Perp. cross. Near the centre of the village are the dilapidated and much-altered remains of a late 16th century house called the "Church-house," possibly once in the possession of some guild. A very fine bridge spans the river beyond the church. E., on the hills beyond *Sturminster Marshall*, are the woods of **Kingston Lacy** (see p. 473), seat of the Bankes family, and the camp of **Badbury Rings** (see p. 478). $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. W. is **Charborough Park** (Mrs. Erle-Drax) (see p. 663), with its lofty arched gate-ways, crowned with stags, lions, etc., and its tower on the Mount.

To the W. opens the valley of the Winterburne, with its series of pretty villages and ancient churches (Rte. 19).

6 m. **Shapwick**, to the rt. of the line, has a small but interesting *Ch.*, containing examples of all styles, from Norm. onwards. It has been restored without injury to its historical character. It has a coved ceiling and very elaborate chancel screen. In the village are the remains of a cross.

Passing close to the small entrenchment of **Crawford Castle**, or **Spetisbury Rings**, an oval (? British) earthwork with a single bank half cut away by the rly. l., we reach

8 m. **Spetisbury Stat.** Here the little stream of the Tarant comes down its pretty valley to join the Stour. The *Ch.* has been rebuilt, all but the low square tower. It contains an altar-tomb with Ionic pillars to John Bowyer, 1599, and an hour-glass dated 1700. **Crawford**

Bridge, at the S. end of the village, is a very ancient bridge of nine arches, mentioned in a charter of Tarent Abbey, 19 Henry III. In 1506, it being ruinous, forty days' indulgence was granted for its repair. The **Catholic Priory** was formerly the mansion-house of Spetisbury. In 1800 it became the residence of a society of English Augustinian nuns, driven from Louvain by the Revolution, of which Mrs. Stonor, of Oxfordshire, was the superior. In 1801 these ladies removed to Newton Abbot, and were succeeded by Bridgittine nuns from Lisbon, who in 1830 made place for a community of Canons Regular of the Lateran, who now occupy it. Their church is open to the public, and the Lady Chapel has a rood-screen which was discovered a few years ago at Whitford, near Axminster. The villages of this stream will afford material for a very pleasant walk, returning over the downs by *Pimperne* to Blandford Stat. (Rte. 14). The line reaches

Blandford St. Mary, rt., the birthplace of *Browne Willis*, the antiquary (1682), whose industry may be gathered from the fact that no less than 150 volumes of his MS. topographical collections are now preserved in the Bodleian Library. It is also the burial-place of Governor Pitt (of Pitt Diamond notoriety), grandfather of the Earl of Chatham, whose father was rector of the parish. His body lies in an aisle added by him to the parish church. The chancel and tower belong to the original building. The Pitt family resided at the *Down House*, erected by them in a sheltered

vale 2 m. from Blandford. The rly. crosses the Stour, and arrives at

11½ m. ★ **BLANDFORD** Stat (Pop. 3985). **Blandford Forum**, taking its name from being a market situated at one of the chief fords of the Stour, is one of the most cheerful and prosperous-looking towns in the county. It owes its appearance to a disastrous conflagration in 1731, which destroyed nearly the whole town, leaving only forty houses standing. Not fewer than fourteen persons perished in this fire, and several died afterwards from alarm, fatigue, and grief at the destruction of their property. The houses have a certain air of stateliness from their high roofs and ornamented fronts. It is built entirely of red brick, in two main thoroughfares: *East Street* and *Salisbury Street*. These meet in a spacious market-place, terminated at one end by the church, and at the other by the park of *Bryanston*, which is separated from the street by a light iron fence. The chief manufacture was that of buttons, now discontinued; before the great fire the town was the most celebrated in England for pillow-lace. The manor belongs to the Duchy of Lancaster. It was visited by James I. in 1615, and suffered much from its loyalty in the civil wars, and was plundered by Major Sydenham in 1644.

Old Aubrey, the gossiping topographer, went to school at Blandford, where, upon play-days, he used to visit the shop and furnaces of "old Harding, the only countrey glasse painter that ever I knew, though before the Reformation there was no county

or great town but had glass painters." Harding died c. 1643, aged eighty-three or more. Blandford is the "Shottsford Forum" of the Wessex Novels.

Blandford has produced its full share of eminent men, including various members of the family of *Ryves*: *George Ryves*, Warden of New College (d. 1613); *Sir Thomas Ryves*, a famous civilian, who attended Charles I. at the Newport Treaty (d. 1651); and *Bruno Ryves*, chaplain to Charles I., and Dean of Windsor, who assisted Walton in publishing his "Polyglott," and the erroneously reputed author of the "Querela Cantabrigiensis" (d. 1677); *Thos. Bastard*, the epigrammatist (d. 1618); *Christopher Pitt*, the translator of the "Æneid" (d. 1748); *Thomas Creech*, the translator of Lucretius and Theocritus; and *Alfred Stevens*, the constructor of the monument to the Duke of Wellington in St. Paul's Cathedral. Natives of Blandford were at the same time primates of England and Ireland: *William Wake*, Archbishop of Canterbury (b. 1657); and *Thomas Lindesay*, Archbishop of Armagh (b. 1654). It was the birthplace (1785) of one of the ablest and best of modern Dissenters, J. Angell James. It gives the title of marquis to the eldest son of the Duke of Marlborough.

The **church** is in the semi-classical style of the last century, with Ionic pillars supporting the ceiling, pronounced by Madame d'Arblay, in 1791, to be "a very pretty edifice of late date where the service was very well performed." The tower is 80 ft. high. Adjoining it, under a

portico, is a pump, erected by Mr. John Bastard, 1760, in remembrance of the great fire, and to provide against the recurrence of a similar disaster. It bears an inscription to that effect. An old mansion of red brick, about a gunshot N.E. of the church, was one of the few houses which escaped this conflagration. It is an ancient building, with a high roof and hexagonal chimneys, and a quaint un-English air, which it probably owes to the taste of the high German doctor, Sagittary, who lived here. **Ryves' Almshouse**, a handsome brick building, also escaped the fire.

The **Corn Exchange**, behind the Town Hall, is a fine spacious room.

Blandford was visited twice by Gibbon, the historian, when captain of the Hants Militia in 1760 and 1762. In his autobiography he recalls the attractions of "pleasant, hospitable Blandford." "our beloved Blandford," though he records with regret that its dissipation interfered with his studies.

On the skirt of the town, beyond East Street, are some remains of **Damory Court**, in the reign of Edward II. the residence of Roger d'Amorie, Constable of Corfe Castle, but now a farmhouse. A barn to the E. of it was **St. Leonard's Chapel**, with Perp. windows and doorways now partly walled up. On this estate stood *Damory's Oak*, a celebrated tree, 68 ft. in circumference at the ground. During the Rebellion its hollow trunk was inhabited by an old man, who vended beer in it, and after the great fire it afforded a home

for a considerable period to a houseless family. In 1703 it was greatly injured by a storm, and in 1755 it was taken down and sold as firewood for £14.

Bryanston, or "Brian's Town," takes its name from Brian de Insula, or Lisle, its lord in the time of King John. The estate belonged to the family of Rogers for many generations, and was purchased from them by Sir William Portman, of Orchard-Portman, near Taunton, who took an active part in the suppression of Monmouth's rebellion, and captured the Duke himself, July 8th, 1685. He was one of the earliest of the western landowners to join William of Orange at Exeter, and his adhesion secured the Prince's interest in Dorsetshire.

The *Ch.* is nearly entirely modern, and contains memorials of the families of Rogers and Portman. There is an epitaph worth deciphering to the wife of Richard Rogers (d. 1566), and on the pedestal of an ancient font a mutilated inscription marks the resting-place of the heart of Ralph de Stopham, one of the early lords of the manor. A new church has been completed this year (1898).

Bryanston House (Lord Portman) is not accessible to strangers. It was preceded by a large mansion erected in 1780 from a design by James Wyatt, the chief feature of the interior being an octagonal staircase, in the centre of the mansion, 30 ft. in diameter. The present house was erected from the designs of Norman Shaw, R.A., 1889-94. It is in the Elizabethan style, of red brick

with Portland stone dressings. The park is more than 1 m. in length, and watered by the Stour, which sweeps through it below a beautiful crescent of wood. This is well seen from the bridge, a little distance from the Crown Inn.

Several fine **earthworks** are within a ride of Blandford, viz.: rt. of the Sturminster road, **Hod Hill**, 3 m., and **Hambledon Hill**, 4 m. N.W.; on the old road to Wimborne, **Buzbury**, 2½ m. E., and **Badbury Rings**, 6¼ m. S.E.; and on the lower road to Wimborne, **Spetisbury Ring** or **Crawford Castle**, 3½ m.

The most interesting place near Blandford is **Milton Abbey**. It is eight posting miles distant, but a horseman may reach it in six (Rte. 14).

Numerous **seats** are scattered among the chalk hills and valleys of this neighbourhood. Among them may be enumerated *Steepleton House* (just E. of Hod Hill), the Hon. Misses Pitt; *Ranston House* (adjoining Steepleton), Rev. Canon Sir Talbot H. B. Baker, Bart.; *Hanford House*, Mrs. Livingstone-Learmouth; *Turnworth House* (5 m. N.W.), Lieutenant-Colonel Parry-Oke-den; *Whatcomb House* (by Milton Abbey), J. C. Mansell Pleydell, Esq., D.L.; and *Charborough Park* (6 m. on Wareham road), Mrs. Ernle Erle-Drax.

Proceeding on our route up the pretty valley bounded by a bare chalk down E., and the woods of Bryanston W., at 14 m.

we pass between *Durweston* l. and *Stourpayne* rt.

The *Ch.* of **Durweston** has been rebuilt, with the exception of the very handsome Perp. W. tower, ornamented with niches. Over the door is a very curious sculpture, representing the interior of a smithy, where a horse is being shod, supposed to refer to St. Eligius or Eloi, the patron saint of blacksmiths. A former rector was Lord Sydney Godolphin Osborne, the well-known "S. G. O." of the "Times." Mention is made in the Domesday Book of the existence of a vineyard here.

Stourpayne (so called from the Paynes, its ancient lords) has a Dec. *Ch.*, rebuilt 1858, with an ancient Perp. tower, and contains a kneeling effigy of Vicar Straight (1670). Above the village N., towering over the rly., is

Hod Hill, crested with an entrenchment which is separated from that on Hambledon Hill by a deep valley. It contains 50 acres, and is constructed in the shape of the letter **D**, with two ramparts, and is remarkable for containing within its area at the N.W. corner a small but very perfect Roman camp and a number of hut-circles, marking the site of a British settlement. It was a large walled "oppidum" rather than a camp, and is considered by Mr. Warne one of the latest Celtic or British earthworks in Dorset. Still further N. is the rival entrenchment of

Hambledon Hill, crowning a bold outline of the chalk downs, 480 ft. above the valley below.

It is about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile in length from E. to W. It is protected by two ramparts and ditches, strengthened by advanced works at different points. It was probably a British camp, but was occupied by the Romans. It played a part in the civil wars, when its entrenched camp was occupied by near 2000 of the west country Clubmen, commanded by Mr. Bravel, rector of Compton, whence they were ejected August 4th, 1645, by Cromwell and Desborough. "We have taken about 300, many of which are poor silly creatures, whom you will please to let me send home; they promise to be very dutiful for the time to come, 'and will be hanged before they come out again.'"—*Cromwell's* "Letters." Many escaped by sliding down the smooth turf slopes. The prisoners were confined at Shrowton or Iwerne Courtney Church, with four vicars and curates, who were taken with them on the hill. "The colours taken had sentences of Scripture profanely applied by their malignant priests, who were the principal stirrers-up of the people to these tumultuous assemblies."—*Sprigge*. The motto on one of the colours was—

"If you offer to plunder our cattle,
Be assured that we will give you battle."

[At Stourpayne the little river *Iwerne* joins the Stour, running down a pleasant valley and watering a chain of villages with churches which will well reward the tourist for turning out of his way to visit them.

In the valley between Hod Hill and Hambledon Hill is *Steepleton House* (the Hon.

Misses Pitt), the property of the late Lord Rivers. **Steepleton Ch.** will interest the antiquary from the singularity of its construction, the chancel being the base of a Norm. tower adapted to its present purpose in the 16th century. Norm. windows may be traced in the walls of the nave.

1½ m. further *Ranston House* (i.e. *Randolph's Town*) (Rev. Canon Sir Talbot H. B. Baker), a Palladian mansion at the foot of a prettily wooded hill, the stream flowing below.

2½ m. is **Iwerne Courtney**, otherwise known as *Shroton*, i.e. *Sheriffston*, from having belonged to Baldwin, the sheriff at the time of the Domesday Survey, on the little river Iwerne, or Ewerne. The *Ch.* was rebuilt 1641. by Sir Thomas Freke, whose monument with those of others of the family adorn a mortuary chapel, separated from the chancel by curious Jacobean screenwork; and 3½ m. **Iwerne Minster** (*Iwerne House*, Lord Wolverton), where the fine *Ch.* is remarkable for possessing almost the only ancient stone spire in the county. The spire and belfry story are Perp.; the lower part of the tower and great part of the church are E.E.; one arcade of the nave is Norm. The chancel has lancet windows on the N. Iwerne Minster belonged to the abbey of Shaftesbury, and was appropriated to one of the abbess's confessors. It was one of the many preferments held by William of Wykeham. On the S. side of the church is an old mansion known as *Bay House*. 1 m. further, at **Sutton Waldron**, a

pretty little *Ch.*, decorated by Owen Jones, was built on a knoll to the S.W. of the village at the expense of Archdeacon Anthony Huxtable.

1 m. further, at the foot of Fontmell Down, "tumid with barrows," is **Fontmell Magna**, 4 m. S. of Shaftesbury, with a very good *Ch.*, rebuilt, except the tower, at the cost of the late Sir R. T. Glyn, 1862. All the old portions of interest have been preserved and re-erected. The tower is fine, and the S. aisle and porch much enriched with bands of panelling, coats of arms, figures, and inscriptions: "O mankynd, have thou yn mynd, 'Yer of our Lord God MVCXXX' (1530). Much of the inscription remains yet to be deciphered. The nave is wide, and the arcade remarkably elegant. The capitals of the pillars bear angels with inscribed scrolls. The font is Norm., with a scroll issuing from birds' beaks round the bowl. There is a curious screen in the S. aisle with the heads of "Walter King and Esbell his wife." In the churchyard is a memorial cross erected by public subscription to Lieutenant Philip Salkeld, who was mortally wounded in blowing up the gate of Delhi, October 11th, 1857. In the village is a handsome maypole, renewed and restored by Sir Richard Glyn in 1897. At the foot of the conical hill of Melbury is **Compton Abbas**, 7 m. N.E. of Blandford, taking its distinctive name from having belonged to Shaftesbury Abbey. It has a beautiful small church, rebuilt 1868, with broach spire and vaulted chancel.]

From Stourpayne the rly. pursues the valley of the Stour under the lofty heights of Okeford Hill.

16 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Shillingstone** Stat., called also *Shilling Okeford*, taking its name from its ancient lords, the Eschellings. The *Ch.*, which is a conspicuous object from the rly., has a Norm. chancel arch, E.E. chancel and font, and Perp. tower. The chancel was restored in 1868, and the rest of the church in 1889, at which date a new N. aisle was added. There is a monument by Chantrey to Mrs. Acton, 1817. The pulpit was the gift of one William Keen, a merchant of London (1666), who retired hither to avoid the plague. In the churchyard is the base of a cross. The long village straggles up the hill; in the centre of it are the steps and basement of a cross, and a maypole some 50 ft. high, which is annually dressed on June 9th. The base of a third cross stands lower down on the Blandford road. At **Hayward Bridge**, a very ancient passage over the Stour, is a small camp, probably formed to defend the ford from which the three villages, Shilling and Child Okeford and Okeford Fitzpaine, derive their names. The *Ch.* of **Okeford Fitzpaine** was rebuilt 1866, retaining, as far as possible, the ancient features. The tower arch and W. windows are curious, and deserve attention. The base of a cross of Dec. date is to be seen in a cottage garden in the centre of the village. 2 m. S.E. **Hanford House** (Mrs. Livingstone-Learmouth) is a very stately gabled mansion, beautifully placed near the banks of the Stour,

erected in 1623 by Sir Robert Seymer, surrounded by magnificent timber, and approached by an avenue of horse-chestnuts. Close to the house stands the little *Ch.*, erected in 1650, containing memorial windows to the late Henry Ker-Seymer, M.P. for Dorset (d. 1864), and members of his family.

19 $\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Sturminster Newton** Stat., another market town, insignificant in size, but exceedingly ancient. It was bequeathed by Aelfred to his son Æthelwold, and afterwards belonged to Glastonbury Abbey. At the dissolution it was granted by Henry VIII. to Katharine Parr, and on her death by Edward VI. to his sister Elizabeth, who demised it to Sir Christopher Hatton. Leland says of it, "The townelette is no greate thing, and the building of it is mene." In the civil wars the Parliamentary forces had a garrison here, which was forced by the Clubmen, July 3rd, 1645, when sixteen dragoons were taken prisoners, and many killed and wounded. The *Ch.* (1827) is a modern cruciform building. The tower is old. There are remains of a cross in the village. It is built on a declivity descending to the sluggish *Stour*, which is here crossed by a bridge of six arches. Beyond the bridge rises a beautifully wooded hill called **Piddleswood**, and immediately opposite the end of the bridge a moated mound (now an orchard), on which the *castle* stood formerly. A fragment of this building with some E.E. arches still remains, worth a visit. Those in search of the picturesque should ascend the steep

road above Sturminster, which commands a charming landscape.

1 m. N.E. is **Hinton St. Mary**, once belonging to Shaftesbury Abbey. Near the *Ch.*, rebuilt except the tower in 1846, is an old mansion of the Frekes.

3 m. N. of Sturminster is **Marnhull**, the Marlott of "Tess of the D'Urbervilles." The *Ch.* is a good building, with a fine lofty Perp. tower, part of the S. face of which fell in 1718, and was rebuilt in the style of the period, the battlements being added at the same time. The church contains some late Norm. work, an E.E. N. arcade, good Dec. arches to chancel and first bay of S. arcade, and a Perp. N. aisle and chapel built on E.E. foundations. The S. aisle was added in 1852. On the W., N., and E. walls are remains of mural paintings, the earliest dating from perhaps 1500. The late Norm. font bowl, removed and buried in 1852, was discovered and replaced 1898. The piscina in the N. chapel, the rood staircase, and squint were opened up in the latter year. The three well-preserved alabaster effigies of a man in armour and two wives, after various removals, have now been set upon a cenotaph restored from a surviving fragment of the original, and placed in the N. aisle. The ornaments are thought to fix their date as 1460-83. It is not yet known to what family these fine effigies belong. A S. chapel known as the "Filliot" aisle was removed in 1852. The history of the N. aisle and chapel is still a puzzle to archaeologists, and this part of the church

is full of interesting details. *Nash Court* (Captain E. G. Hardy, J.P.), 1 m. N., is a fine mansion. It was the birthplace of *Giles Hussey*, 1710, an artist of much originality, who, however, led away by fanciful analogies between painting and music, wasted his talents in vainly reducing the proportions of the human face and body to a musical scale. A few of his drawings are preserved at Lulworth Castle. Marnhull became, 1795, the place of refuge of a society of English Benedictine nuns from Paris, who afterwards removed to Cannington, near Bridgwater. The Augustinian Canons had recently a priory here, which, on their leaving, came into the possession of the Oblates of the Sacred Heart.

1 m. N. of Marnhull is **Fifehead Magdalen**, very prettily situated on the top of the hill which rises from the Stour. The manor belonging to Hugh d'Avranches, Earl of Chester, was given by his descendant, Ralph Gernons, to St. Augustine's Priory, Bristol, and was made by Henry VIII. part of the endowment of that see. The little *Ch.* has a N. chapel built by Sir Richard Newman, lessee under the Bishop of Bristol in 1693, containing some stately monuments of the family. Under the yew-tree in the churchyard is a curious tomb to Thomas Newman, the burial-place of whose family is recorded by a Greek inscription in the *Ch.* In several places the rebus of Abbot Nailheart, of Bristol, may be seen.

2 m. N.E. is **Todbere**, the original seat of the ancient family of the Carents, with a little E.E. *Ch.*

5 m. S., on a spur of the chalk downs, below Rawlsbury and Bulbarrow, is

Woolland, where a very handsome *Ch.* was erected 1857, after the designs of Sir G. Gilbert Scott, by Montague Williams, then of Woolland House. It is built of stone from Hamhill and the neighbouring quarries of Hazelbury Bryan, and is richly decorated with marbles of varied hues within. **Hazelbury Bryan**, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. of Woolland, was the rectory of the Rev. H. Walter (d. 1859), first Professor of Natural Philosophy at the East India College of Haileybury. The *Ch.* dates from 1357, and has some ancient glass in the windows of the chancel and N. aisle. On the roof of the chancel are shields with the arms of Bryan, Montacute, Neville, Lucy, and Percy. On the W. side of the churchyard is an ancient house (c. 1480). The rly. now deserts the Stour, and crossing the little tributary of the Lidden, reaches

$23\frac{3}{4}$ m. **Stalbridge** Stat. (Pop. 1705). Stalbridge, originally Staplebridge, is a small market town, once the property of the abbey of Sherborne. The view from the neighbouring hill and the *Ch.* and the *cross* in the street are the only things to remark in it. In the view are seen *Alfred's Tower* at Stourhead, and the outlying knolls of *Duncliff* and *Kingsettle*, near Shaftesbury.

The *Ch.*, chiefly Perp., which had suffered much from ill-judged repairs, was thoroughly restored and the tower rebuilt by T. H. Wyatt in 1878, at the cost of the Rev. H. Boucher. The capitals

of the chancel aisle are carved with angels bearing scrolls, inscribed with texts. The chapel contains two fine altar-tombs. A gravestone bears the epitaph in Lombardic letters of William of Exeter, formerly rector. The Perp. arcades of the nave are lofty and well proportioned. In a gravel-pit at Stalbridge there was a find of copper and bronze Roman coins, mostly of Constantius, and Roman pottery, in 1866.

The **Market Cross** is light and beautiful, about 30 ft. high, but much weather-worn and mutilated. The steps are modern. The figure of the Saviour is represented on the shaft; those of the Virgin and St. John on the stone above it; on the pediment are four rude designs, probably representing the Resurrection, in bas-relief. The whole is richly ornamented.

Stalbridge Park was purchased by the late Marquis of Westminster of the late Marquis of Anglesea, and is now leased as a farm. The house, a fine Elizabethan structure, stood N. of Stalbridge, among a group of old chestnut-trees, and commanded a delightful view of the *Vale of Blackmoor* and of the downs beyond it. It was pulled down, 1822, by the steward of the Marquis of Anglesea; relics of its grandeur are to be found all over the neighbourhood. The present house was the laundry. The manor belonged to Sherborne Abbey, and at the dissolution was granted to Protector Somerset. It afterwards belonged to the Touchets, Lords Audley, and on the attainder of

the last baron it passed to Richard Boyle, Earl of Cork, whose fourteenth child, the celebrated *Robert Boyle*, the natural philosopher, born in the castle of Lismore, in Ireland, 1626-7, resided in it until 1650, and here made his first chemical experiments. It was subsequently the residence of Walters, infamous for his parsimony, a member of Pope's trio, "Walters, Chartres, and the devil." Anthony Delaber, one of the members of the first Protestant divinity class at Oxford (whose interesting narrative has been reprinted by Froude, ii. 47-61), was connected with Stalbridge, where his brother was parson of the parish, "a rank papist and the most mortal enemy that ever I had for the Gospel's sake." The living was bought by Abp. Tenison, and given to Corpus College, Cambridge.

[2 m. S.W. **Stourton Caundle Ch.**, E.E., contains a curious alabaster female effigy in an elaborate costume on an altar-tomb, with a crocketed canopy, and also an altar-tomb to Sir Simon Chidiok, and a Perp. carved oak pulpit. The castle or manor-house was formerly a jointure house of the Stourtons. Some few traces of it remain, and the E.E. chapel behind the farmhouse is nearly entire.

2 m. E. of Stourton Caundle is *Thornhill*, the residence of Lady Parke, and formerly of *Sir James Thornhill* (whose father had sold it), the painter of the cupola of St. Paul's, who was its architect as well as owner. An obelisk, on an eminence near the house, erected by Sir James to

the memory of his patron, George I., bearing the date 1727, was blown down in 1836, and rebuilt by the Rev. H. Boucher in 1874.]

ROUTE 21.

CHARD ROAD TO AXMINSTER.

(*L. & S.W. Rly.*)

A large part of the line lies out of the county and in that of Somerset, from which the places mentioned below are most easily visited.

1 m. W. of Chard Road Stat. is *** FORD ABBEY** (W. H. Evans, Esq., D.L., J.P.), a very beautiful monastic building, mixed with much heterogeneous modern work. It is seated in its park, in a retired valley on the river Axe, which there forms the boundary of Dorset and Somerset.

It was built in the reign of Stephen (1141) for a community of Cistercian monks from Waverley, in Surrey, which had been first established in 1136 at Brightley, near Okehampton, Devon, by Richard de Brioniis, a descendant of the dukes of Normandy. The monks resided five years at Brightley, but, driven out "by reason of great want and barrenness," they determined to return to Waverley. On their journey they passed Thorncombe, the manor of the sister of the founder, Adeliza, Viscountess of Devon, who, touched by a feeling of wounded honour at the threatened failure of her brother's foundation, bestowed on them Ford in exchange for Brightley. In the reign of Henry II., by the marriage of the heiress of this family,

the abbey passed to the Courtenays, who continued its patrons for many generations. Its last abbot was Thomas Chard, Bishop of Solburia *in partibus*, and coadjutor of the see of Exeter, and he restored and beautified it, and reconstructed the cloister and refectory, which remain perfect to this day. At the dissolution it was granted to Richard Pollard, who was subsequently knighted, and from his family it passed in succession through those of Poulett, Roswell, Prideaux, and Gwyn. It escaped destruction in the Rebellion, as the property of the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth, Edmund Prideaux, who afterwards employed Inigo Jones to make extensive alterations, which were, however, not completed at the death of the architect in 1654. In 1680 the son of the Attorney-General received a visit from the Duke of Monmouth, who was making a pleasure tour through the western counties. He had afterwards, however, to regret the honour, for he was arrested as accessory to Monmouth's rebellion, and kept a prisoner in the Tower until he had paid a ransom of £15,000 to Judge Jeffreys. His heiress carried the property to the Gwyns of Glamorgan-shire. In the reign of Queen Anne, Francis Gwyn was the proprietor of Ford. He was Secretary-at-War, and was presented by the Queen with the tapestry which ornaments the saloon. In 1815 one of his descendants let the abbey for a term of three years to *Jeremy Bentham*, who here wrote some of his works, and here his favourite disciple, James Mill, the father of John Stuart Mill, with his whole family, used to spend nine or ten months at a stretch. In 1847, after the death of John Fraunceis Gwyn, it was in the hands of trustees to sell, and after it had been stripped of its pictures

and some of its tapestry it became the property of G. F. W. Miles, Esq., who sold it to the family of the present owner, Herbert Evans, Esq.

The approach to the abbey is by a broad straight road, which leads to the eastern, ivy-covered side, but affords no view of the S. or principal front. This front faces the lawn and terrace, and presents a long range of sculptured wall, richly coloured by mosses and lichens. Standing facing this front we have before us the existing **cloister**, which was the N. walk of the original quadrangle, 82 ft. long, of which the other three sides have perished. In a line with the cloister further W., to our l., are the **entrance tower** and abbot's lodgings, beyond which are the apartments added by Inigo Jones. Behind us, on the S. of the square, stood the church, of which there are no remains. To our rt. on the E. side is the **chapter-house**, now the *chapel*, and further to the N. there is a groined basement, with a very perfect **dormitory** above, now divided into chambers. Approached by a central door from the N. side of the cloister are the **refectory** and **kitchen**. The cloister, tower, and refectory remain as they were built by Thomas Chard, the last abbot, and bear his initials, with the inscription "Anno Dni Millesimo quingesimo vigesimo octavo [1528]. A Dno est factum Thoma Chard. Abb.," and the arms of Courtenay, Poulett, and Prideaux. The square windows in the W. wing are part of the alterations by Inigo Jones. The **chapel**, originally the **chapter-house**, is the oldest portion

and probably coeval with the foundation of the abbey, in the reign of Stephen. It is a good example of Trans., with a vaulted roof hung with modern pendants, a finely carved screen and pulpit, and obtusely pointed arches set with zigzag mouldings. The E. window is Tudor, and was probably the work of Thomas Chard. The **cloister** still retains all the beauty of its vaulting and delicate tracery, but is a little injured in effect by the square-headed doors added by Inigo Jones. It is 82 ft. in length, and is now used as a conservatory. The hall or **refectory**, also built by Chard, is 28 ft. in height and 55 ft. in length, lighted by four large Tudor windows. It has been carefully restored by the present owner. Its carved ceiling is gilded and painted, and its walls are partly wainscoted. W. of it are the **state apartments**, designed by Inigo Jones. The most remarkable of these are the **dining-room** and **drawing-room**, both with elaborate and beautiful ceilings, and formerly furnished in the old English fashion with high-backed, tapestried chairs, etc. Above them are several bedrooms, one called **Queen Anne's Room**, because prepared for that sovereign by Francis Gwyn, when Secretary-at-War. The **grand staircase**, designed by Inigo Jones, but completed after his death, in 1658, is much admired, particularly the balustrade. It leads to the **saloon**, also by Inigo Jones, a noble room, 50 ft. in length and 28 ft. in height, and for more than 130 years hung with the famous **Raphael tapestries** presented to Francis Gwyn by Queen Anne.

They were worked at Mortlake, as proved by the fact that they have the Mortlake badge in their border. In the park are a lake well stored with fish, and several old trees, particularly a cedar of Lebanon of remarkable size.

Among the abbots of Ford were Baldwin, Archbishop of Canterbury, 1185-89; the learned and devout Roger the Cistercian, c. 1180; and John of Devon, chaplain and confessor to King John (d. 1210), who, according to Fuller, "travelled in foreign parts, not, as too many, to weed, but gather the flowers, returning stored with good manners, and stocked with good learning, and endeavoured that all his convent should be like him. Ford Abbey, in his time, had more learning than nine convents of the same bigness."

Leigh House, in Somerset (Colonel Henley Cornish Henley), on the hill-side opposite Ford, is a fine old Elizabethan mansion and a perfect example of the period. It forms two courtyards, with the hall between them. It was originally one of the granges of Ford Abbey.

Thorncombe, 1½ m. S.E., was the birthplace of *Admiral Hood*, Viscount Bridport, 1728. His father was the vicar. The *Ch.*, rebuilt 1867, contains a brass to Sir Thomas and Lady Brook, 1437. The vicarage is of an ancient date, and there is a mediæval fireplace in the study, found during alterations made some years ago. S. of Thorncombe is *Sadborow* (Captain J. A. Bragge), and 2½ m. from Chard Junction the ruins of **Holditch Court**, long a residence of the Brook

family, afterwards Lords Cobham, who forfeited it by the attainder of Henry, Lord Cobham, in the reign of James I. They are probably of the time of Edward III., and now partly incorporated with a farmhouse.

Hawkchurch, S.W. of Thorncombe, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. from Chard Junction, and 4 m. from Axminster, lies very pleasantly on the western side of the hill crowned by Lambert's Castle (Rte. 14), sloping to the thickly wooded and fertile valley of the Axe. It lies close to the confines of Somerset and Dorset, but was transferred from the latter to Devonshire in 1896. The manor belonged to Cerne Abbey. The *Ch.* was entirely rebuilt in 1870, but retains many of its original features, including the Norm. arcades of the nave, ornamented with grotesque carvings, the Norm. corbel table, and the chancel arch, removed one bay eastward. The chancel is entirely new. The tower is a stately Perp. building of four stages, bearing the arms of Cerne Abbey. **Wild Court** (Commander Noel), originally belonging to the abbots of Cerne, is delightfully situated, 500 yards N. of the *Ch.*, on ground sloping down to the Axe, commanding beautiful views. The house is large, but long and low, built originally in the form of an **E**, but the W. wing has been pulled down. It contained some portraits and a curious painting of the E. side of St. James's Park before the conflagration of Whitehall. It was built by Robert Moore 1593, it having passed to the Moores from the Leighs, to whom the manor was given at the dissolution.

Tytherleigh, on the highest point of the old road to Axminster. Near it, in a farmhouse, are some remains of the mansion of the Tytherleighs, a family who became extinct 1741, but were long lords of the manor ehre.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. to rt. is **Chardstock**, now transferred to Devonshire, where the Bishop of Salisbury had a manor-house, crenellated by Bp. Erghum in 1377, some remains of which are to be seen in the *Court House Farm* to the S. of the church. A stable between the farmhouse and the church has a good open timber roof. Joanna Crippen, of this place, coming home from Chard market January 24th, 1708, was buried in the snow from Monday till the following Sunday, and was taken out alive. The *Ch.* was rebuilt, with*the exception of the S. wall and tower, 1863, adhering as far as possible to the style and proportions of the original edifice. It is a very ornate building. The monument with kneeling effigies to Richard Symonds, of Coaxdon, and his wife (d. 1610), the grandparents of Sir Symonds D'Ewes, Puritan and antiquary, the compiler of the "Journal of Queen Elizabeth's Parliament," disappeared in the restoration.

Coaxdon was the birthplace of *Sir Symonds D'Ewes*. *Coaxdon Mill*, on the river, is picturesque.

Here the line passes into Devonshire, and reaches

Axminster ("Handbook for Devonshire"). From Axminster there is daily communication by coach with Lyme.

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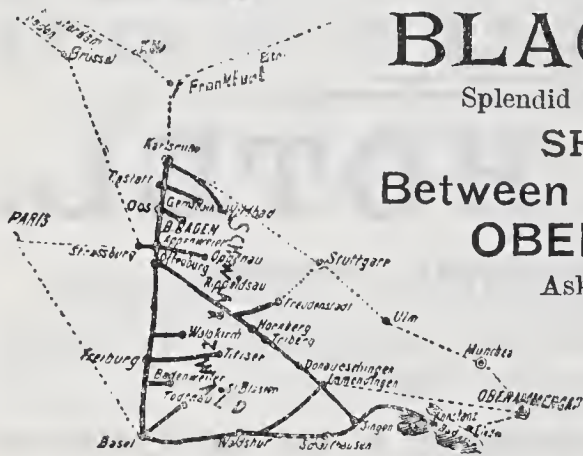
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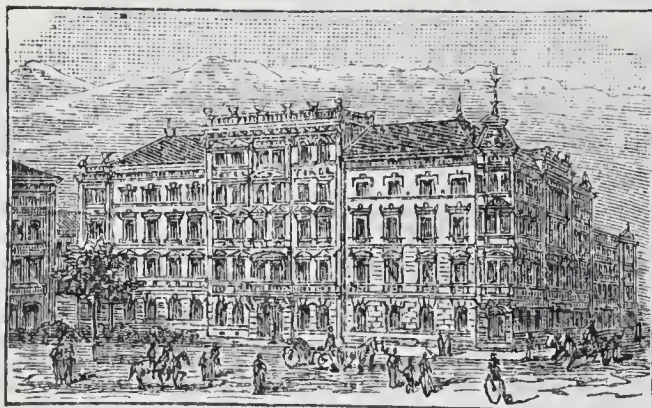
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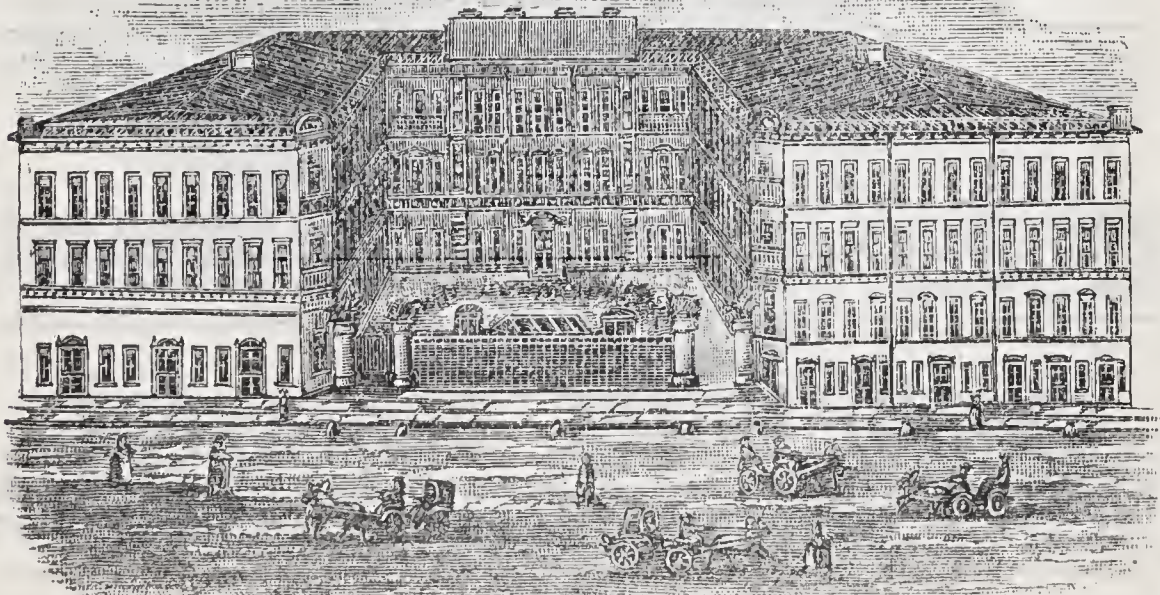
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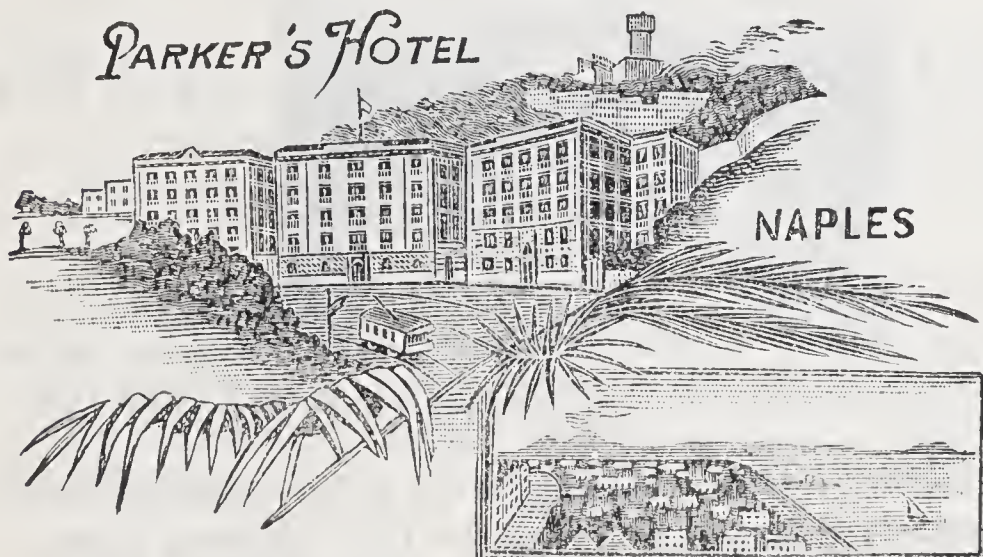
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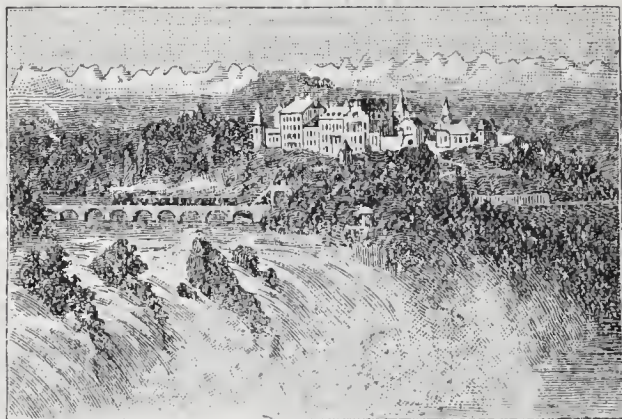
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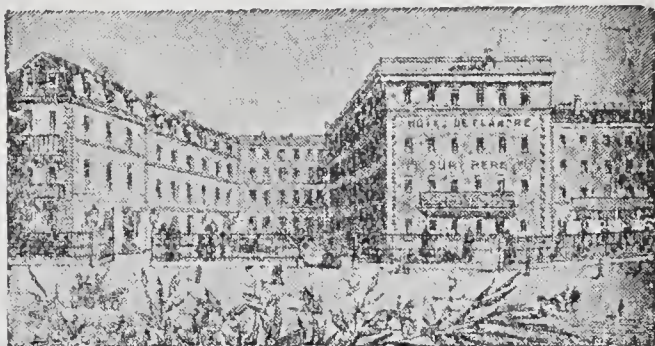
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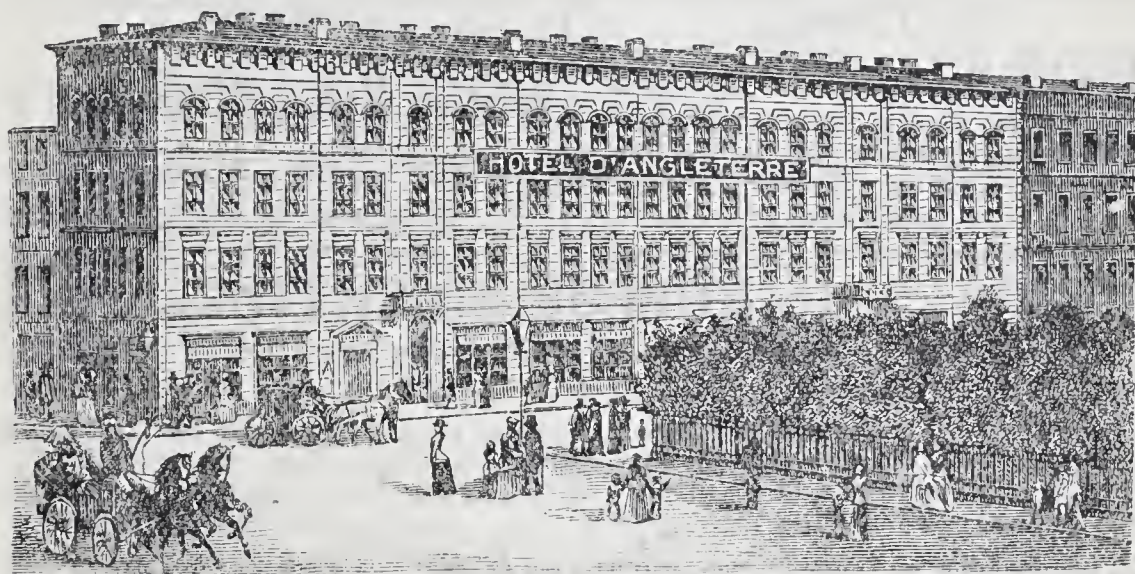
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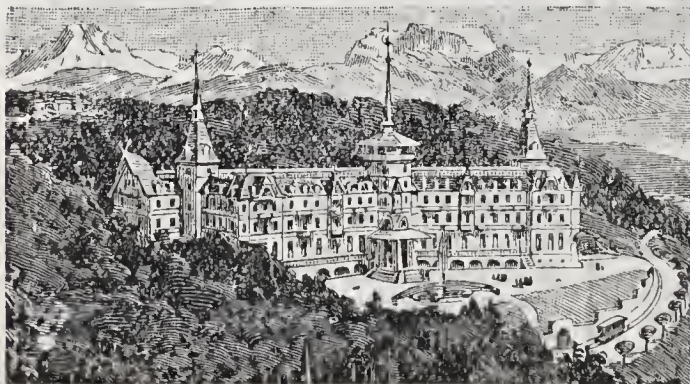
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